

The thinking person's guide to the world

ot, where there are 56 drivers,

Mr Smith found that for every

cab running a revenue-earning train for only 9.6 minutes per

hour during the week. At week-

ends, the productivity is even

less, with Saturday the worst day

at just 7.5 minutes per bour, giv-

ing a weekly average of around

Part Two: Global affairs



Millions of pounds being wasted through train drivers' outdated working practices

# Revealed: railmen's 1½ hour day

EXCLUSIVE

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

Train drivers spend as little as nine minutes an bour actually driving and even less at weekends according to a study which will be used by the newly-privatised rail operators to push through changes in working

It suggests that while productivity in the rail industry has improved recently, involving the loss of tens of thousands of jobs, there is scope for new operators to make dramatic cuts to the £439m annual bill for train drivers. A firm of inde-pendent consultants has pro-manager with 35 years experiduced the report after studying working practices and management techniques on Great Western Railways and South West trains, which were two of the initial franchises awarded under the priviatisation process.

The findings suggest that enormous savings could be made by new private operators taking on the running of services if they are prepared to persuade, ASLEF, the union which represents 12,000 drivers who are paid between £13,000 and £30,000, of the need for change.

The study, using British Rail There are 1.5 drivers for information, was carried out by every rostered duty that needs

manager with 35 years experiaged organisation would nur-mally be able to cope with a ratio of 1.25 drivers per job to up a consultancy, Western cover for holidays and sick-Looking at the Plymouth de-

ness," according to the report. Typically, on one Thursday early last year 26 of the 56 drihour of drivers' time paid by the vers were on unproductive ducompany, the drivers are in the

There were 17 drivers 'spare" which means they are intended to cover sick colleagues. One driver was on route revision, another taking a train on trial, while a further were caployed on preparation and stabling", which means driving engines

could easily be carried out by fitters rather than drivers. Another eight drivers were

on rest day, which meant there

were only 22 drivers running trains being covered by 17 "spare" drivers. Another practice scrutinised as the limit placed oo the of

mileage that can be covered by a driver in one duty. When drivers are on the Plymouth - Paddington - Plymouth duty, they have to get off at Exeter oo the return journey and allow a colleague to take over the train because they are not

allowed to drive more than 450

senger "on the cushions" as it is called. Plymouth to London and back is 452.8 miles.
Mr Smith said that the situ-

ation at Plymouth was typical of the industry. He used to work for South West Trains, "where the situation was only slightly

He argued that at SWT, with property designed timetables and a better managed labour force, more trains than the existing timetable could be run with half the labour force.

If working practices in the industry were renegotiated, even greater improvements could be Mr Smith said: "Productivi-ty is bad overall and wages are huttressed by ancient bonuses and supplements. Better productivity would mean hetter paid, but fewer, drivers.

Lew Adams, general secretary of ASLEF, did not challenge the findings but defended the drivers' productivity.

He said: "It is easy to look at these things simplistically, but there are always more complex issues involved.

Drivers did not just operate trains: "Drivers have to be responsible for the disposal of the train, paperwork and writing reports on incidents. They need to keep abreast of

changes by studying notices, learning routes and going on safety days." ASLEF also ar-gued that the importance safety training has been emphasised by reports of accidents like the Clapham disaster but the content of the training was criticised by one driver who said: "We are taught things like not to eat the

A spokesman for Great Western Trains said that the figures did not "reflect the whole duties of our drivers" but refused to provide alternative figures or to discuss the details of why there were so many spare" duties.

Back to the 1930s, page 2

# Era ends as Forte loses bid battle

MATHEW HORSMAN DAVID HELLIER and JAMES CUSICK

The mighty Forte dynasty yes-terday conceded defeat in one of the most fiercely fought takeover hattles ever, succumbing to a £3.8bn hostile bid from Granada, the television and leisure company.

The news that Forte's shareholders bad overwhelmingly accepted Granada's terms was met with hitter disappointment in the Forte camp, particularly by Sir Rocco Forte, his father, Polizzi, the principal family shareholders.

Sir Rocco, 51, head of the hotel and catering empire built up by his father and grandfather, forced an almost continuous 10minute smile onto his face to hide his disappointment.

In a shaky voice, he said: "We

shareholders. We did a very good job in defending this company and I am only sorry for the people in the business who bave helped take it forward."

The Forte family will receive £300m if they tender their shares to Granada, which observers last night predicted. "There is no point now in hanging on," a senior City analyst said. "They have lost."

Lord Forte, and his sister, Olga terday's press conference Sir Rocco said: "I'll be back." Granada's chief executive,

Gerry Robinson, said he was delighted with the outcome of the two-month-long battle. "I won and lost this hid so many times in my heart," he said. This was a battle between

In a shaky voice, he said: "We delivered a lot of value for our said Sir Rocco, describing the

The Forte family is expected to relaunch a family-run hotels company, possibly by purchasing some of the hotels being sold by Granada. At the end of yes-

> cutting management and his family-led team. "We have lost the bid, but I do not believe we have lost the argument."

Granada has won control of

Eaten up: Sir Rocco Forte announces the defeat of his family by Granada. He ended the press conference with the words: 'I'll be back' Group of botels and restaurants, as well as the Happy Eater and Little Chef roadside catering fight between Granada's costbusinesses and the Travelodge

budget-hotel chain. Granada intends to sell £2bn, Forte's chain of luxury hotels, to pay for the bid and focus the

restaurants and on hudget and mid-market hotels. A stake in the Savoy Group will be sold, as will be the Meridien and Exclusive hotel chains.

Granada intends to keep the 430 Happy Eater and Little including a stake in the Savoy new husiness on roadside Chef restaurants, of which al-managers today.

hrand names, such as Burger King, Mr Robinson promised that job losses would not top 1,000, and said he intended to meet Sir Rocco and other senior

most 100 will be transformed into fast-food outlets, featuring Mr Robinson paid tribute to Forte's defence. "It was pretty sparkling, and if anyone thought Forte was going to say 'here you

are, they were wrong."
But Granada's bid swayed in-

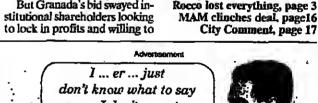
Management, which held a vital 14 per cent of Forte.

Photograph: Dillon Bryden

bet Mr Robinson could provide

profits. It relied particularly on

support from Mercury Asset



# Mitchell takes soft line on IRA

Ireland Correspondent

The Mitchell report on illegal arms in Northern Ireland has concluded that paramilitary groups will not decommission weapons in advance of all-party negotiations, as demanded by the British Government.

It has instead laid out six principles of non-violence and democracy and recommends that, in the absence of prior decommissioning, all parties incommitment to the principles.

mitments to peaceful means and eventual total disarmament. which should be verifiable by independent means. Another is a declaration that if those involved in talks disagreed with their eventual ontcome they would oppose this outcome by

exclusively peaceful methods. It mentions the possiblity of paramilitary groups decommissioning weapons in the course of all-party talks rather than in advance of them. The volved in talks should make a report is the work of a threeman international commission

headed by former US Senator George Mitchell, which put it together in an intensive twomonth period of meetings in Belfast, Dublin and London.

The report will be formally published this morning and there will be government statements in London and Duhlin later in the day. Its import is that the Gov-

emment's stipulation, known as Washington 3," that the IRA and other groups should decommission some weapons in advance of all-party talks, is not

The purpose of the Mitchell group, set up jointly by the British and Irish governments, was to find some way out of the impasse over arms which has held up the Irish peace process.

The Government has made it clear it is under no obligation to accept any of the report's findings and recommendations. The question now is whether the Government accepts Washington 3 as unrealistic, and accepts that subscribing to the principles of non-violence and democracy would be enough to allow Sinn Fein entry into talks.

Sinn Fein will be relieved that Mr Mitchell and his colleagues have not joined London in insisting on prior de-commissioning, since the IRA has flatly ruled out any such move. The report's suggestion of confidence-building measures is intended to reassure other participants at talks, and also to

ly than ever before into the political processes. The Government may seize upon one of the possible confidence-building measures referred to in the report, that of

exchanges that delighted Tory

backbenchers. In one taunt,

the Prime Minister invoked the

Labour leader's famous slogan

about crime, and declared:

You should not be so sensitive

about your difficulties. I just

to the idea that a new assembly could have a part to play in negotiations. The idea of an assembly has been strongly opposed by both Sinn Fein and by John Hume's Social Democratic and Labour Party. The report goes on to conbind the republicans more tight-

"an elective process" as part of

negotiations. This is a reference

sider various ways of disposing of weapons, mentioning that if weapons were to be destroyed by paramilitary groups themselves an independent body would be needed to verify this. Leading article, Page 14

her resignation from at least two

more Labour MPs, many

Labour MPs, including some in

the shadow cabinet, appeared

to believe she should have re-

signed before announcing her

the PLP meeting this morning

will astonish many of her crit-

ics. Roy Hattersley, the former

deputy Labour leader who crit-

icised Mr Blair's decision to

send his son to the London Or-

atory, an opted-out school, is

likely to speak at the meeting. Several Labour MPs said it

was "very unlikely" Ms Harman

would be re-elected to the shad-

Ms Harman's appearance at

decision on her soo's school.



## Are You A Poor Talker?

acquiring a swift mastery of happiness to others while everyday conversation and winning for themselves the writing bas just been good things of life. announced. It can pay you After all, conver real dividends in both social and professional advance and principles - just like any ment. It works like magic to other art. The good talkers give you added poise, selfconfidence, and greater popu-

Influence

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You know, through your own observation, that good talkers always win attention. They command respect! They quickly become not only popular, but often more entertaining - all of which directly

After all, conversation has certain fundamental rules whom you admire know these rules and apply them whenever they converse. Learn the rules and make your conversation brighter, more enter-taining and impressive. Then you will find yourself becom-ing more popular and winning new friendships in the business and sociol worlds.

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### IN BRIEF

### Child bride: Mother accused

The mother of Sarah Cook (right), the 13-year-old who married a Turkish waiter, may be charged with encouraging her daughter's statutory rape and kidnap. Jackie and Adrian Cook were

piad £20,000 by the Sun for their daughter's story, and have insisted that they did the right thing for their child. Turkish authorities say the marriage was not valid under ei-

ther civil or religious law. Musa Komeagae, the 18-year-old who Sarah married, has already been arrested and charged with rape. kidnap and "running away with Page 3 a girl under 15".





Road rage has reached epidemic proportions with half of all drivers being attacked or abused in a year.

**Lottery luxury** Britons are splashing out on just one luxury - the National Lot-

tery, a survey says. Page 4 Today's weather Cold and windy with rain in the south and some snow in the

with angry Labour MPs DONALD MACINTYRE fall-out, Mr Blair let it be known and JOHN RENTOUL to colleagues that the "clamour" and "squalid hounding" of Ms Harriet Harman will meet ber faced down.

Labour critics head-on this morning after Tony Blair, the Labour leader, yesterday ordered his party to "close ranks" and end deep divisions over her decision to send her 11-year-old son to a grammar school.

Ms Harman yesterday took the unexpected decision to attend the regular meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party for what promises to be a showdown with angry Labour MPs. It will be the first formal opportunity backbenchers have had to voice their fury. As the Labour leadership fought to contain the political Harman by the Tories must be Dismay in the senior ranks of the party over Ms Harman's decision appeared last night to be underlined by a curt statement

leader of the Labour Party. Mr Prescott, whose aides strongly denied he had a row with the Labour leader over the issue, declared: "Tony Blair as leader of the Labour Party has made clear what the position is and I have nothing to add." Earlier he had sat glowering

beside Mr Blair when the par-

ty leader came under fire from

John Major in Commons

want to be tough on hypocrisy and tough on the causes of from John Prescott, deputy hypocrisy. Implicitly acknowledging criticism over his backing for Ms Harman, Mr Blair thanked Mr Major for his "kind words of concern over pressure. The difference between me and you is

Harman set for showdown

that I won't huckle under it." test of his authority since he became leader in 1994, has made it clear the party must show its "mettle under fire".

Mr Blair, facing the stiffest

section

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Leading article, page 14

it cuts the cli

IN BRIEF

Court reprieve for death row convicts Nine prisoners on death row in Belize yesterday won a temper rary reprieve from Law Lords

The council - the final court

of appeal for 16 Common-

wealth countries - dismissed a

claim by the Belize govern-

ment that British judges had no

power to intervene. They will

now go on to decide the mer-

its of the men's appeals against

needed for law reform.

Rushdie beaten

A first novel by Kate Atkinson, Behind the Scenes at the Muse-

tan, scooped the £21,000 Whit-

bread Book of the Year award ahead of hot favourite Salman Rushdie. The Moor's Last Sigh,

Rushdie's first novel since The Saturic Verses, had been heav-ily tipped for the prize, pre-

sented at a dinner in London

# Call for action on pensions 'time bomb'

**NICHOLAS TIMMINS** Public Policy Editor

Radical proposals to tackle the pensions "time bomb" were called for yesterday by an in-

dependent inquiry. A new guaranteed minimum ension would be introduced. If pitched at £73.50 a week for a single person, £15 higher than the present basic state pension, it would involve a net cost of between £1.5bn and £3bn a year, providing help to the least well-off pensioners.

**US** phone

giant

moves in

on BT

AT&T of the US, one of the

world's largest telecommuni-

cations companies, is taking

on BT in its home market with

telephone and multimedia ser-

vices for businesses and con-

sumers. The American giant said that its new UK telephony

company, with a workforce of 400, would have a Slbn turnover within five years.

The launch coincided with

new data from Oftel, the in-

dustry regulator, showing sharp

improvements in BT's stan-

dards of service since privati-

sation. But the watchdog's report also highlighted poor

performance on several counts

by Mercury Communications.

the company set up 12 years ago

Robert Allen, AT&T's chair-

man, said that customers in the

UK want choice and affordable

advanced services and pledged

that the US group would invest

for the long term. AT&T will

start with services for large

multinational companies with

plans for consumers to he

unveiled later this year, possi-

hly involving links with cable television companies.

Mr Allen said: "This is a his-

toric event in the history of

AT&T. It is the first time we

have done anything like this anywhere else in the world."

AT&T will use lines leased

from BT, Mercury and other network operators and, if nec-

essary, it will also build its own

lines. Some large customers will have dedicated lines into

AT&T's own switching system

but the rules governing the in-dustry dictate that others will

have to dial a three-digit code

to use the company's services.
Mr Allen added: "Our intention is to get this right rather."

than make a lot of noise. We will speak with actions rather than

words." AT&T made it clear

that it would aim to attract the

higher spending customers. It

also said that while its prices

would be competitive they

would not necessarily be the

regulation to prevent anti-com-

petitive behaviour in the UK

market and to ensure "an equal

playing field". "There is clear-

ly no mechanism for the regu-

prevent anti-competitive be-

proposals to take on sweeping new competition powers. BT

must respond by the end of next week and, if the company

cannot agree with Mr Cruick-

shank, it will be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers

His comments come as BT

lowest available.

haviour," he said.

to be the main rival to BT.

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

Pension Scheme (Serps) would be phased out and replaced by privately run funded schemes with compulsory contributions. These would be either existing occupational and personal pensions or payments into a new national pension scheme run independently of government and likely to be particularly attractive to the lower paid.

The changes would involve existing workers and employers paying twice. Initially they would have to find an extra 0.5

The State Earnings Related to 0.7 per cent of earnings as ension Scheme (Serps) would they fund the remaining commaking tax funding of penmitments in Serps while investing for their own second-tier pension. Two factors force the change, according to the Retirement Income Inquiry, which was chaired by Sir John Anson, former second permanent secretary at the Treasury, and funded by the National Association of Pension Funds.

First, there will be a sharp drop next century in the ratio of people of working age compared to pensioners numbers -

sions supported by Sir Norman Powler and Sir Keith Joseph, making tax funding of pen-sions increasingly difficult. And when they were Secretaries of State for Social Services. the least well-off are becoming Moving from Serps, paid for increasingly reliant for their by current National Insurance

pensions on complex, unpopular means-tests which are ex-Contributions, to schemes in which people owned their own pensive to run and penalise fund may produce greater willthose with small savings while failing to provide an adequate inguess to contribute, the inquiry argued. In time, it would income, the inquiry said. Its recommendations mirror some of reduce the competition for tax the proposals put forward by funding between pensions and Labour's Commission on Social other social programmes such Justice. But they also pick up on as health and community care. ideas for funded second pen-The package produced cau-

Department of Social Security welcomed it but said detailed study would be needed before conclusions could be reached. while Labour refused to commit itself to any of its particular proposals or costs. Age Concern welcomed the report's

'pragmatic approach". The inquiry rejects on the grounds of unaffordability the "popular" idea of restoring the basic state pension to its 1979 level, arguing that it would cost an immediate £6.6bn, the equiv-

tious political reactions. The alent of 3p on income tax, and

Report of the Retirement In-come Inquir: Vol 1: Report: £5.50; Vol 2: Analysis of Options. available from Shelwing Ltd, Folkestone, CT20 2BL; £10.50.

on the Privy Council in London. £50bn by 2030. Restoring the value of Serps, is rejected on similar grounds. Instead, the basic state pension should remain, still linked only to prices but topped up to provide an assured pension which would rise with earnings, protecting pensioners' living standards.

Pensions: 2000 and Beyond.

convictions for murder and their death penaltics. Over the years the Privy Council has reprieved hundreds on deaths rows in the Commonwealth. The United Democratic Party, which governs Belize, wants to divorce itself from the Privy Council, but lacks the two-thirds majority

An inquest was told yesterday how a man heard a terrible screaming like someone was being hurt" before seeing a man who later died in police custody being taken away in a police

Robert Howes, who was givroof of his flat after hearing a

ing and swearing.

"The man was not struggling at all," he said. "It was as if he was laying on a board." He

scious.

es the man was unconscious, but you're saying you thought that was put on," asked Ben Em-merson, counsel for Mr Lapite's family. "I helieve so, yes," the officer replied.

the father-of-two-who was said to be carrying crack cocaine the size of a golf ball - was taken away, neither of the two officers in charge of the arrest had dis-closed that Mr Lapite had been kicked hard in the head, twice.

**JOJO MOYES** 

"It was like someone was in

pain," he said of the screaming, which he estimated lasted two or three minntes and ended shortly before he saw a black man being carried into the back of a police van by "four to six" policemen. He said there was also a lot of "aggressive" shout-

added that the man's head was being supported but he could not say if he was conscious.

Earlier, officers who had arrived at the scene to assist in the arrest of Mr Lapite in Clapton, east London, on suspicion of possession of drugs, said they thought that after they had overpowered him, Mr Lapite had "pretended" to be uncon-

Constable Peter Baron, of Stoke Newington police, said Mr Lapite had made "no noise" and not moved at all from the time until he was placed in the police van - apart from to of-"passive resistance", by "not assisting us at all".

"I would say be was pretending not to be conscious," PC Baron told St Pancras coroner's

One of the assisting officers, Constable Jonathan Ridley, was accused of "lying to assist his brother officers," after his notes and testimony contradicted the statement he made which stated that Mr Lapite had responded to conversation.

The inquest continues to-

# screams' of man in

ing evidence on the second day of an inquest into the death of Shiji Lapite, 30, said he had looked out of the skylight in the "terrible noise" shortly after midnight on 16 December 1994.

court in London. "So for all outward purpos-

The court heard that before

The court heard that Mr Lapite had lapsed into uncon-sciousness in the back of the van and had immediately been tak-en to Homerton Hospital, east London.

# **Terrible** custody

RAF pilot killed An inquiry was under way after an RAF Jaguar crashed on take-off at RAF Coltishall, in Norfolk, killing the pilot. The single-seater attack and recon-

naissance jet was on a routine training flight. The pilot's ejec-tor seat had worked though his body was not found with it.

last night.

Prison first Ron Hill, a demolition company director, became the first per-son to be jailed for breaking health and safety legislation after being found guilty at Bristol Crown Court of failing to prevent the spread of asbestos from a razed factory. He was sentenced to three months with

Bypass toll mounts

The bill for security guards to allow contractors to fell trees in the path of the Newbury bypass has already soaked up £100.000 of the £500,000 set aside to unsure the work is not impeded unduly by protesters, the Highways Agency revealed.

Computer crime

Computer criminals could be costing industry up to £1bn a year, a report by the Association of British Insurers warned. It estimates £200m a year losses from computer theft could be five times higher when uninsured losses, lost business opportunities, production and service are taken into account.

Pregnant pause

A hospital maternity unit has been forced to advertise for temporary staff and extend part-time workers' hours be-cause 13 of its midwives are pregnant. Two doctors and secretary at the unit at Bishop Auckland general hospital, Co Durham, are also expecting.

### THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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die East, America, Africa and India) £184.08; Zone send chaque payable to Johnsons International Media Services Ltd to 43 Malbestraux, London E14 9TR or telephone 01.71-538 8288. Cauda cards watcom BACK ISSUES

### predicted that disruption would the trains over the weekend. A last for several weeks. He said: Mr Allen called for tougher spokesman for South East lator to detect, punish and prepares for battle with Don Cruickshank, the director general of Oftel, over his

checking all the trains for fatigue

cracks in the couplings and this

will take several days,"
Commuters are likely to find

their services disrupted over the

next few days as nearly two thirds of South Eastern's Net-

worker fleet are checked. As the

trains are given the all-clear, they are being put back into ser-vice. Networkers built at GEC

Alsthom are not affected. Last night Brian Wilson.

Labour's transport spokesman,

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR and

suburban trains had to be with-

drawn from service after drivers

refused to operate them be-

cancel about half its services for

south London and North Kent

while safety checks were un-

dertaken on its 97 four-coach

Networker trains huilt at ABB

York over the past three years.

ecutive ordered the checks af-

ter a coupling broke on one of

The Health and Safety Ex-

South Eastern Trains had to

BARRIE CLEMENT

cause of safety fears.

### The company had earlier ac-cused the train drivers of takdid not need to conduct a hal- tests, the spokeswoman said. Drivers' leisurely working day

in their decision to refuse to

throughout Monday, trying to

persuade them that locking

doors simply wasn't the answer

to the problem. How would

people escape if there was a

fire? What would happen if pas-

sengers needed to be evacuat-

ed if there was an accident?

tried to run the trains, but the

drivers were having none of it."

"They wouldn't listen to us and

We talked to the company

operate the trains.

The hours worked by train drivers are circumscribed by agreements and rule books stretching hack to the Thirties, writes

Small beginnings: This model of the KdF Wagen, now known as the VW Beetle, is to be offered by Christie's at auction next month. Five of the

models of the first test car were made at the Porsche Apprentice School in 1938. War interrupted production; the rest is automotive history.

Trains halted for safety checks

say how many. He said: "We are vatisation, the train company members had been vindicated

could have been bankrupted."
Following the initial incident. South Eastern ordered

that the trains should run with

the internal doors between car-

riages locked but the drivers re-

fused to operate them because

of concern that if the coupling broke, the two halves of the

train might collide. There is an

automatic brake but the drivers

felt that there was still a risk of

a collision if one part braked

faster than the other.

Trains admitted that faulty couplings had been found on sevrepairs will take a long time. If Lew Adams, leader of Aslef, the trains because they were not

eral other trains but refused to this had happened after pri- train drivers' union, said his taking industrial action. He

Christian Wolmar. Therefore, every time train drivers arrive at the terminus, they are allowed five minutes to close the engine down, and a further five to walk to their depot. When they return to the train. hey have another 10 minutes. Such rigidity fits unhappily with the flexible practices need-

faces strong competition from mouth. Because drivers are not cars and buses. There is also allowed to operate trains for considerable waste through inefficient rosters. Drivers will only work a maximum of nine

Two typical duty turns from last year were obtained by the Independent. One shows the driver taking the 6am train and takes the 10.35 back to Ply-

hours and must always end up in the same place as they signed

Mr Adams said his members seeing the results of ultrasonic

mouth to London and back is 2.8 miles more than that, at Exeter a relief driver takes over. The driver has operated the train for nearly six hours.

allowed to operate trains for more than 450 miles and Ply-

vided for a refusal to drive

trains where people were in se-

Health and Safety Executive (HSE) said its officials first

heard about the problem on Sunday. Asked why drivers had

to take action before the trains

were taken out of service, the

HSE said it could not take at

face value what was being re-

ported. The HSE finally took the decision vesterday after

A spokeswoman for the

rious and imminent danger.

Another driver picks up a train at Plymouth at 22.10, arriving at Laira two miles away at 23.20. He stays most of the night from Plymouth to London, arriving at 9.30. He has a hreak 5.05am to reach Plymouth at 5.28am to be the 6am to London. day.



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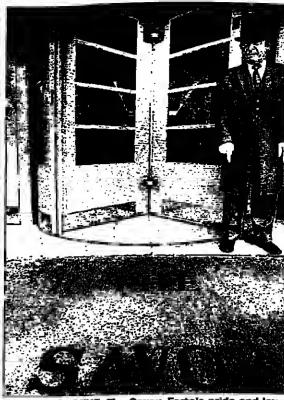
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Wir









### Empire huilding: From left, Charles Forte In his first milk bar 50 years ago; Rocco in the Café Royal, which Forte bought in 1954; Rocco (left) and Olga in 1992 when their father relinquished control of THF; Tha Savoy, Forte's pride and Joy Rocco has lost everything his father built'

VICKY WARD

Par siest killed

"It takes a lot of courage to blame oneself when things go wrong. An unsuccessful person often blames everyone except the real culprit - himself." So wrote Lord Forte in the final chapter of his autobiography. Fone, published in 1986. Brave words, hut, at the time, meaningless.

Then, Forte plc, the multimillion-pound botel and restaurant company he had built single-handedly over five decades and wished to see expand under the leadership of his son and heir, Sir Rocco, had occasionally faltered but it had never fallen.

Now, though, after a lifetime's struggle - he is 87 - Lord Forte's dream is over. Granada. the television and leisure giant, bas succeeded in its £3.8bn hostile takeover hid, ending 50 years of independence. Nobody other than those who know him can possibly imagine the scale of the old man's grief.

Friends say he is bound to summon a family gathering, either at his Belgravia home or his

ly. They believe he is unlikely to wait until the habitual family lunch on Sunday, at which he still sits at the head of a vast dining room table.

'It will be absolutely awful," said one who knows the family well. "There will be a huge Italian explosion, Poor Rocco will have completely lost face. It is going to be ghastly."

If the scenario sounds absurdly like the plot of one of Al Pacino's films, one should rememher that the story of the Forte's rise to prominence was not itself far off a rags-to-riches fairy-tale.

Charles Forte was born to a peasant family in the hamlet of Monforte in the Italian hills. They emigrated, moving to what was formerly Clackmannanshire in Scotland where the young Forte had to engage in playground fist-fights in order to win friends at the local school. His father took over an ice-cream parlour cum café, known as the Savoy - a very far cry from the hotel group he was later to take a stake in.

But the young Charles had a shrewd grasp of figures. Work- 1973 was valued at £23m, there-

there was no reason not to build a chain on the same X:Y ratio, be bought first one "milk bar" in Regent Street in the west End of London, and then an-

"His real talent", says one person who worked for him was that he could spot an undervalued property instantly." But relative business suc-

other and another.

cess. Forte soon realised, was not sufficient to succeed in Britain, Even after he had merged with the Trusthouse group - the manoeuvre that was to launch him into the league of super-rich industrialists fought off a hostile bid from Allied Lyons and managed to take the whole company over by 1973, he still could not shake off the City's derogatory tag "the Milk Bar King.

Forte hated being a misfit in a snob-ridden society more than anything else. "In this country," he wrote "I believe that we are far too pushed around by an articulate minority."

Trusthouse Forte, which in Surrey mansion pretty prompt- ing on the principle that if one fore, contained one major prob-

café could make a profit of Y lem for Forte - its image. It was from an investment of X then a middle-market chain, comprised of nnluxurious hotels and a plebian clientele. Forte wanted class: he wanted the Savoy. "Mention the Savoy anywhere," he has sighed openly and nostalgically to reporters in these past few fraught weeks,

"It's the name, the Savoy." But in the Eighties when he



many, including the Savoy's former chairman Sir Hugh Wontner, who thought his ambitions deluded. "Everybody knew that the Fortes simply did not un-derstand the concept of luxury," says a city source. "Everybody" it seems, were right.

Despite an increasingly strong personal friendship with

Lord Thorneycroft - (who be-came president of the THF board) - he never gained total control of the Savoy. By 1994 he owned 68 per cent of the shares but only 42 per cent of the votes. By now Forte had finally re-

linquished control of the group to his son, Rocco, 51, who had been appointed chairman in 1992. (He was appointed chief executive in 1983, but in practice Forte Snr still ran the show).

Charles Powell and the late

Forte is fantastically proud of his only son (he also has five daughters) whom he groomed for the succession since he was in his teens. According to Tatler magazine, Forte would visit Downside public school in Somerset every weekend ostensibly to take his son fishing, but in re-ality to discuss the finer points of entrepreneurialism.

These past few weeks he has been confident that Rocco can fend off Granada's hostile bid. "We don't need a white knight," he has said publicly. "We've got Rocco."

But for whatever reasons

the Tory establishment - Forte had instant access to Baroness Thatcher and her Tory aides, Sir some say it is his fault for not ensuring decent dividends, oth-ers say the rot started before he are made of stero stuff. They was in a position to do anything will survive this humiliation about it - Rocco has been unand start again. able to repeat history and stave off attack from outside. For him, 'I think they will learn from yesterday must be the worst day of his life. "He has effectively

theirs.

lost everything his father built," a business colleague said. "He must feel awful." The closeness of the family only emphasises the tragedy. Even though his six children are all grown-up and have children of their own, if he has not seen them for a couple of days, Lord Forte reportedly always asks them two questions: "Where have you been?" and "Have you

rung your mother?" Olga Polizzi, his eldest daughter, and the managing director of Forte, once said that they never saw much of other children when they were little because they had so much

fun playing with each other.
They still go on holiday together, spend Christmas together - almost 40 of them in Lord Forte's house in Belgravia and every Sunday lunch together, chez papa.

Conversation this weekend is likely to be a little strained, but, their friends insist, the Fortes

this," a former associate of Lord Forte's said. "If anything, Charles Forte's greatest mistake has arguably been not to give a far more senior role to Olga Polizzi. She is far and away the brightest of them. Her tragedy is that she wasn't boro a man. Now her tragedy has become

Ms Polizzi, who is married to the journalist William Shawcross, is a famously successful (and well paid - her salary has been estimated at £2.2m) businesswoman. Being female, she was never considered by her father to be in the running for the top-dog position in the company. Now, however, her energy and her brains may play a pivotal role in the family's next move.

"My bet," a rival botelier who does not wish to be named said, "is that they'll buy back some of the most luxurious hotels in the world from Granada. They'll take the Hyde Park in London, the Westbury in New York, the Ritz in Madrid and so on, and the person running the negotiations for them will be Olga."

Meanwhile, the Fortes must face the present as a dynasty, which has temporarily lost its momentum, but not its courage. In the final chapter of his autobiography, Lord Forte isolates one paragraph from the rest of the text. Its philosophy is strangely anxious.

"I can't say I have complete peace of mind, however, and I won't have as long as I continue working. Things are never right in a business, particularly in the hotel and catering trade. You always try to improve everything that is being done and you never quite succeed. I spend my life trying to do this, but success depends on so many people and so many different chains of events. So, every day, you have got some other worry. Furthermore, I have people round me whom I love and I am fond of. They provide worries, when they are not well of if they are unhappy," he wrote.

On that prophetic unfinished note, it closes. At 87, Lord Forte must begin again.

### Radical revamp of roadside restaurants and hotels planned to maximise profits the winners set to spice up and losers Little Chefs

JOHN SHEPHERD .

The hotel and leisure industries are rapidly splitting into two. One side is making a steady recovery from the recession, while most of the other is destined to be inscribed on an infamous roll call in memory of those who succumbed to greed and the excesses of the free-spending, care-free 1980s.

Granada is convinced it will feature high up on the winners list. It has argued that it can raise hotel prices and simultaneously extract plenty of cost savings out of Forte through redundancies, and from the ben-efits of stronger huying power - particularly for food. The take-over victory comes

at a time when analysts are fore-casting growth of 2.5 per cent in real disposable income for this year, on top of the 2.25 per cent recorded last year. Most of this increased spending power is probably earmarked for the leisure markets. Granada is in a good position.

It will be able take advantage of the expected uplift in spending by repositioning many of Forte's hotels in higher market tiers, mainly by beefing up the cus-tomer offering. Installing satellite television and telephones in the 127 Travelodge hotels, for

charge higher prices. The com-pany, however, will not be able to become blase about its approach to the leisure market

which is still nursing many re-

cession-inflicted wounds. There are many companies that are sitting precariously on the fence of survival and will pounce on any mistake by Granada and pitch for the customers who will shun the socalled added value from being able to watch pay-TV.

Forte was late to rise to the

challenge, hanging on to the well trusted business methods in the belief that the recession would be short-lived. It was quite happy to promote the notion that it was the single biggest botel operator in the United Kingdom, but put into context it was nothing other than a small fish in a small pond. Investors had to foot the bill for the management's mistakes. Dividends were cut a couple of years ago and there was little prospect of any restoration of dividend payments being made until Granada launched its assault, leading Forte to promise the earth in ex-

change for investor loyalty. Prospects for the hotel and leisure industries may look considerably brighter than for some time hut Granada, despite its victory, is not going to be in a instance, will give it leverage to position to dictate the play.

**MATHEW HORSMAN** 

Those who frequent roadside restaurants - and who has not stopped at a Little Chef or a Granada services? - should brace themselves for radical changes in the way their food is prepared, presented and priced.

Having won its hid for Forte. Granada has grandiose plans to introduce new menus, refurbish tired decor and launch fast-food formats at many of the 430 Little Chef and Happy Eater outlets that dot the country.

Tossed on the ash-heap of history will be the quintessential 1960s-style Little Chef restaurant, with staid furnishings, too few waitresses and a long wait for coffee and a bun. The greasy spoon breakfast will still be on offer, of course, but there will be more colour on the plate, a smattering of "ethnic" dishes and conformity. And it is all likely to cost more, as Granada aims to

maximise profits. Forte itself has

already begun to toy with mak-

ing changes before being forced onto the defensive by Granada's £3.8bn takeover challenge. But the plans were too little, too late. Granada has spent two years analysing the chains, and has identified 300 outlets which it intends to make over. The bet-ter-known Little Chef brand will

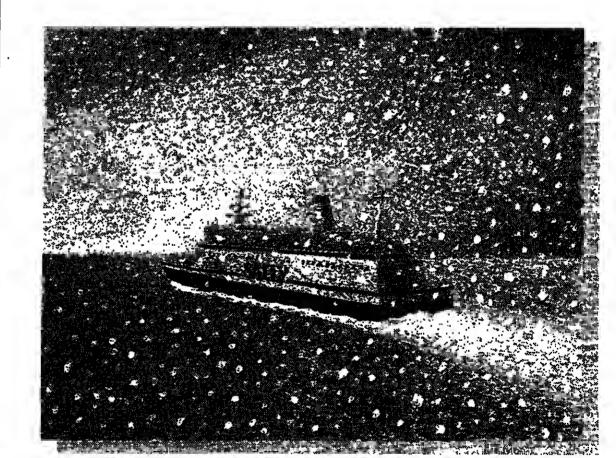
get a all-day snack and patisserie range and a takeaway counter, while just under 100 sites will be transformed into fast-food outlets such as Burger King or Pizza Hut.

Menus will be rewritten, with more expensive ingredients replaced by cheaper alteroatives Tired items will dropped in favour of more fashionable selections - such as chicken tikka or spicy chicken wings. Granada expects to spend about £50,000 per outlet to improve interiors, cash register systems and the menus. For the fast-food outlets, the bill for renovations will rise to about £250,000 per site.

It is all worth it, the company says, because it will push profit margins up by 2 percentage points across the board.

Additional profits will come from the huge cost savings Granada plans to achieve with the merging of its catering op-erations with those of Forte. Granada's executives have criticised Forte for allowing local managers too much discretion in huying supplies. It reckons it can reduce the catering hill by

as much as 10 per cent. Welcome to the future of British roadside catering: brand names, quick service and homogenised cuisine. At least you know what you'll get.



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# Noddy goes to the Trocadero

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

Once they roamed the countryside drinking ginger beer and solving mysteries. Now the Famous Five have been condemned to London's entertainment palace, the Trocadero serving out their copyright. Blyton's characters have been sold off in a move not even Tim-For £13m Trocadero PLC has keep it. "I did try to raise the Blyton favourites will find a new

bought the remaining 43 years of copyright to all Blyton's books - more than 600 titles, of which some 8.5 million are sold worldwide every year.

The sale of Darrell Waters, the family company which owned all the rights, was agreed by descendants of the author who died in 1968. Yesterday Blyton's daughter Gillian Baverstock, who has run the business finance to buy the company," she said. "But the money required was so great, and so many people were interested ...

it was quite impossible."

The Trocadero at Piccadilly Circus, central London, which boasts shops and hi-tech computer games, is undergoing a £45m refurbishment to create what its owners say will be the world's largest indoor urban my the dog's crime-busting in recent years, admitted she theme park. Noddy, Big Ears, skills could have prevented. had been unable to afford to the Secret Seven and other

home inside the park in a £1m "interactive store" selling books videos, games and tapes. Children will interact with the characters, "meet Noddy, shake hands with Big Ears and buy the merchandise," said Nick Leslau, chief executive of Trocadero.

Mrs Baverstock said that her mother would have been happy to know her work was being taken into the next century. "She was very progressive... way ahead of her time," she

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# Mother of bride, 13, faces Turkish police held in prison. Sarah was clear-



Wedded woes: Sarah Cook yesterday with her husband, who faces rape charges

STEVE BOGGAN and HUGH POPE

The mother of Sarah Cook, the 13-year-old who married a Turkish waiter, could face questioning by prosecutors after Sarah's 18-year-old husband was charged with statutory rape and kidnap.
Officials in the town of

Kahramanmaras, south-east Turkey, told the Independent last light that they may charge Jackie Cook, 37, with encouraging Musa Komeagae to commit the offence against her daughter.
The news came as the full

consequences of the Cooks' decision to allow Sarah to marry at 13 came home to roost with startling fury. First, Sarah was forced to undergo a "virginity test" at a Turkish hospital while the media waited for the results, then Musa was arrested and charged with statutory rape, kidnap and "running away with a girl under 15". He could face up to five years in prison.

Then, while Mrs Cook and Braintree, Essex, were summoned to a meeting with the area's child protection unit — wedding [religious ceremony].

There was no Imam who perher husband Adrian, 42, of area's child protection unit -and while Sarah was telling journalists she planned to have a baby by the time she was 14 - Turkish prosecutors turned the spotlight on Mrs Cook.

One prosecutor, who refused to be identified, said: "We are considering pressing charges against the mother, because her encouragement is a criminal offence.



Parental problem: Jackie and Adrian Cook after seeing social workers yesterday Meanwhile, Sarah was quot-

prosecutor continued: "Sarah and Musa are oot properly married, oeither in Turkish law, oor by Islamic law. They have formed it. We have arrested the

boy. He will stay here until the trial starts, possibly tomorrow." He said Musa, who was picked up by police early yes-terday, faced charges of "break-ing the girl's virginity", running away with a girl of under 15 years of age and kidnap.

"It doesn't matter whether Referring to a religious ceremony in which the couple took part two weeks ago, the Turkey as in England," he said.

"The boy may be released when ed in the Sun as saying of her the case starts in the serious marriage: "We were both virgins crimes court, especially if the when we had sex for the first time. Now we can't keep our hands off each other and sleep two have a proper Imam Nikah wedding and the families show their agreement." together all the time. Sometimes

There was no response from the Cooks last night. They have been paid more than £20,000 by the Sun for their story and have been insisting through its pages that they have done the right thing by their daughter. The Daily Mirror reported yesterday that Mr Cook had ap-

proached it and claimed he had been offered £20,000 for the story. He is reported to have said: "If you can top that, you

ly unhappy. She is living in a hasement tlat with Musa's family in a run-down part of fown, She is said to be receiving no education and is expected to do chores from Sam until 5pm. Trudie Pak, the British vice consul in Ankara, spoke to Sarah twice vesterday and said

she was "fine" but had been upset after speaking to her mother on the telephone.

"Sarah was medically examined at a local hospital to establish that sexual intercourse had taken place, otherwise no offence would have taken place," she said.

Last night Mr and Mrs Cook were reported to be en route to

see Sarah in Turkey.
Couples have to be 18 before they can marry in Turkey. With parental consent, the age limit can be dropped to 17 for boys and 15 for girls. With parental consent and a special dispensation from a judge, girls can be married at 14, but there is no provisioo for a marriage at 13. Yesterday, before Musa was

arrested, the Turkish national channel ATV showed pictures of the couple posing for the me-dia. Sarah said defiantly: "We are very happy and I love him very much.

Afterwards, she was taken to hospital for her virginity test, the results of which were read out to journalists while Sarah sat with her head bowed.

Describing the incident to Turks nationwide, ATV's anchorman, Ali Kirca, said: "Sarah was submitted to a test that has caused so much anguish and so many suicides among to the "marriage". and so may Last night, with Musa being young girls.

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### Lottery turns us into gamblers and savers

at night, when we have to share

a room with Musa's brother and

sister, we wait until they are fast

asleep before jumping all over

Sarah, a pupil at Tabor High School, Braintree, met Musa

while oo holiday in Alanya

when she was only 12. Two

weeks ago, the Cooks flew to

Turkey and gave their hlessing

each other."

**CLARE GARNER** 

Britain has become a nation of cantious consumers who save rather than spend - except when it comes to the National Lottery, according to a study by the market analysts, Mintel.

The amount spent on gamhling increased by 41 per cent between 1994 and 1995, making gambling the biggest short-term rise in household spending

 largely due to the lottery.
 The British Lifestyles survey published yesterday revealed that 91 per cent of the adult population now gamble and Britain's gambling losses stand at £5.3bn in 1995 compared with £3.7bn in 1994. Only 18 per cent of adults interviewed about the lottery agreed that "the odds against winning are too remote to make it worthwhile", while 37 per cent felt "it added excitement to Saturday nights".

"This reflects a need for increased excitement and the hope of winning a fortune as a

release from curreot financial constraints and hardship imposed by a low inflation economy and worry about job losses," said Emma Besbrode,

project manager for the survey. The recession cootinues to undermine long-term consumer confidence and since 1994 consumers are doing without many non-essential items such as holidays. DIY, and furniture.

Saving has become a top priority. As a proportion of dis-

1994-95 Gambling (losses) +41.8% Music and inst'ms +19.8% Bicycles, boats and aircraft +16.7%

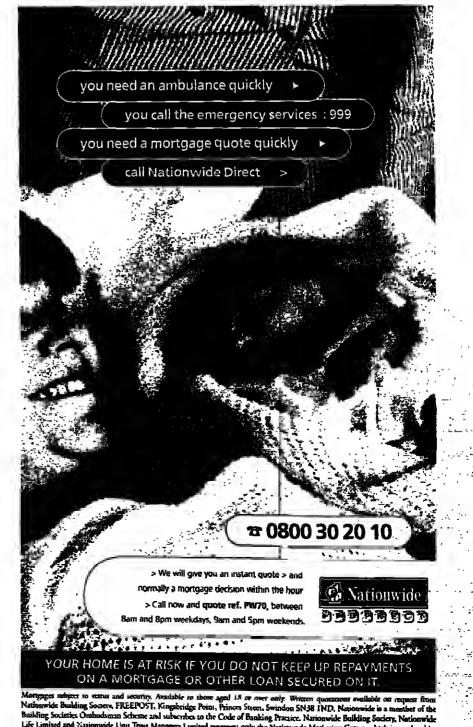
Educational fees Sickness and insurance Domestic and garden +10.5% House purchase and

posable income, savings have increased to 13.3 per cent in 1995 from a low of 9.4 per cent in 1988, and the young in particular are anxious to secure a "safety net" for the future.

Consumers are spending an increased share of their total expenditure between 1985 and 1995 on insurance and pensions, housing, and medical and education fees.

Research into diet and eating habits shows that more than half of all adults (56 per cent) on most occasions eat their meals at the table, compared with 38 per cent who usually eat in front of the television. Comgests a shift towards more formal eating habits.

Publicity given to computers, multimedia, and the Internet has done nothing to change the number of "technocrats" those interested in technology. However, it has boosted the ranks of "techoophohes" those turned off by technology.



Time Us into

erence bills

# 3.6m drivers are targets of 'road rage'

**CHRISTIAN WOLMAR** 

Transport Correspondent

Road rage has reached epidemic proportions with almost half of all drivers experiencing some form of altack or abuse over the past year, according to a new report.

The survey of 1,000 drivers estimates that last year there were more than 3.6 million confrontations prompted hy road rage. Half of these involved people being forced to give way or to leave the road, and, more seriously, there were 800,000 instances where people were physically threatened, half a million where they had their cars deliberately driven into. they were attacked hy other dri-

deliberately damaged by another driver.

The annual Lex survey on motoring found that people in cities and younger drivers were more likely to have been road rage victims than those in the country or older drivers. The report said that the things that particularly annoyed motorists were drivers who cruised in the middle lane, those who overtook on the inside and

people speeding in urban areas. Edmund King, campaigns manager of the Royal Automobile Club, called for government action to counter aggression and violence on the road, arguing that attempts to deal with the phenomenon had

### It started with death of a Cadillac driver

**LOUISE JURY** 

Road rage, like a myriad other modern syndromes, was first identified in the United States

When a pick-up truck driver shot dead the driver of a Cadillac car who cut him up on the main 405 freeway in Los Angeles the Los Angeles Times coined the phrase to explain the extraordinary act of violence.

After a spate of similar at-tacks in Miami, the term gained widespread usage. And, according to Edmund King of the British Royal Automobile Club, like the best Miami vices, it got imported into Britain some years later".

Originally, it was used to describe ordinary people who were transformed behind the wheel into violent and abusive tyrants, Examples poured forth. A 78-year-old driver died when he was punched by a driver half his age during a dispute at traffic lights in Wakefield, West Yorkshire. A 51-year-old man

was killed when he was run over by a truck after a four-mile run-

ning battle.

Mr King said: "Then it became trendy to describe anything on the roads as road rage so it lost its meaning. To be honest, there is a serious problem, but because this has been used as a catch-all phrase we have found it hard to persuade the police and the Department of Transport to take it seriously."

Rebecca Rees, of the Automobile Association, said that there was nothing to suggest that road rage was distinct from any other form of anger, but for many people driving had simply become the most frustrating activity that they regularly en-

However, she pointed out that it may not be a new phenomenon. Lord Byron wrote to Thomas Moore in 1817 describing a "row on the road ... with a fellow in a carriage. who was impudent to my horse. I gave him a swinging box on

vers and another quarter of a been met with obfuscation and million where their cars were buckpassing.

buckpassing. Hc said: "In repeated meetings with the Department of Transport and the Home Office, the RAC presented practical measures to address the problem. But the DoT passed the matter to the Home Office who in turn passed it to the po-lice who still deny the existence of road rage as a problem."

The RAC recently brought a successful private prosecution against a motorist who had attacked a patrol officer. The of-ficer was towing a car belonging to a woman with a baby to a garage when a driver in a car sped past the van, stopped, and attacked the patrolman, pushing him to the ground. The po-lice had refused to take up the

Road rage is just part of a wider phenomenon highlighted in the report which boils down to the fact that drivers do not seem to like other motorists much. The report found that one of people's main dislikes about owning cars was the behaviour of other drivers. Drivers also disliked the cost, traffic congestion and air pollution.

Yet, when it comes to their own behaviour, drivers consider themselves mostly as little angels. The survey found that a third said they never speed. Moreover, most seemed to have an altruistic bent with 43 per cent seeking improvements in public transport, 37 per cent wanting more park-and-ride schemes and 18 per cent even wanting better cycle facilities. Only 3 per cent, however, wanted motorway tolls to be introduced.

Drivers are even on the side of the protesters against road projects, with 59 per cent agreeing with campaigns against roads being built through the countryside. Only 26 per cent agreed with the protestors methods, however. Even more, 82 per cent of those polled, supported protests against traffic congestion and pollution in cities. Lex report on Motoring, Lex Services, 17 Connaught Place, London SW2 2EL; £295.





'hanging onion' hat (above) set off by a veil, while (below) a leaf theme is matched with a choker Photographs: Reuters



# Lagerfeld back to elegant basics

TASMIN BLANCHARD

Karl Lagerfeld presented a Chanel collection of the most refined and exquisite tailoring yesterday. One that left no doubt that the designer and long established Chanel atelier has the key to the highest craftsmanship and, what's more perfect taste.

The designer returned to the soul of Coco Chanel by staging his show in the intimate surroundings of a suite of rooms at the Hotel Ritz.

Classic tweed was constructed into body-hugging jackets in pink, lilac, citrus green and hlack, punctuated by gilt and pearl costume helts and worn over elegant floor length black skirts, split high up the leg. Hats were stamped with

Lagerfeld's indelible imprint all elegance and panache. For customers who might

need liposuction before their arms would fit the skinny sleeves, there were softly cut, peplum jackets with just a breeze of a hias cut ruffle at the neck and a pair of jewelled brooch buttons as fasteners.

The collection made it perfectly clear why women who can afford it will want to be fitted for a jacket that will hold them in shape without a corset. Lagerfeld eschewed any of

the vulgarity that some past Chanel collections have traded on by being unusually dignified and elegant. The signature Chanel jacket was hand-crafted from thousands of mother of

pearl sequins and edged in jet - huxurious and restrained at the same time. For evening, there were black tulle 1940s Hollywood pin-up dresses or a gold jewelled sheath fishtail dress. A midnight blue gown glittered with diamante stars.

The show opened and closed with British aristocral model Stella Tennant, the new face of Chancl. Previous contracts have been held by French pop starle! Vanessa Paradis, Claudia Schiffer, Ines De La Fressange, and Carol Bouquet

### **Prisons** to face cutbacks in staff

HEATHER MILLS Home Affairs Correspondent

The Prison Service is so desperate for ways to meet its £200m budget cuts, it is proposing cutting fuel bills in prison kitchens, timing meetings to take advantage of cheap fares, offering prizes for the best costcutting ideas from staff, and issuing regular "efficiency

newsletters". Prison reform groups suggest the "penny-pinching" schemes show the difficulties the service faces in trying to implement huge cuts at the same time as handling record numbers of inmates - expected to top 54,000 hy April this year.

Details are outlined in confidential guidance to prison governors, seen by the Independent. The documents clearly show that the money which would be saved by plans to axe nearly 2,800 prison jobs - revealed last week - will fall far short of the spending targets demanded by the Treasury.

The guidance, from Richard

Tilt, acting director general at the Prison Service, warns governors they will have to make "difficult and painful decisions". It suggests making greater use of unirained, part-time and con-tract staff - and is likely to meet with fierce opposition from the Prison Officers Association.

It also proposes contracting out prison health care, and suggests further cuts in education and activities for prisoners - a move which both staff and reform groups believe could lead to unrest as inmates are con-fined in their cells for longer pe-riods. However, the guidance warms that essential health care requirements must be met, and says: "Our first priority must be lo maintain control in an in-creasingly difficult environment. It may well be right, therefore, to maintain activities

... to keep prisoners occupied."
A Prison Service spokeswoman said that the documents contained suggestions only and were not binding. But Harry Fletcher, of penal reform group Prisons are not for Profit, said: The Prison Service is clearly in an impossible position ... the cuts must be reconsidered without delay."

### Drug offers hope to obsessives

**ELIZABETH NASH** 

Sufferers from obsessive illnesses such as binge eating, sexual compulsions, kleptomania, shopping mania and the socalled "disease of imagined ugliness" may be helped by a of consciousness and mood. medicine long available in Depression is linked to a defi-

Britain that is often prescribed for depression.

The drug fluvoxamine, sold in Britain as Faverin, regulates one of the hrain's chemical messengers, serotonin, which is used in eating, sleeping and sex, and is thought to control states of consciousness and mood.

ciency of serotonin, and research suggests it may be linked to obsessive disorders.

These disorders, which also include pathological gambling and intermittent explosive behaviour, may produce an initial high followed by strong feelings of guilt and shame. This means they are often hidden and go undiagnosed, American scien-

Dr Eric Hollander, professor of psychiatry at New York's Mount Sinai School of Medicine, told a symposium in Madrid that many of these behavioural disorders had hiological origins and that fluv examine often helped where psychotherapy had failed.

Obsessive-compulsive disorders are extremely common, some affecting up to 10 per cent of the population, and it is a great relief for patients to know

that they are not alone, and they are not going crazy. Now help is available for the first time." He added that in pilot trials,

compulsive shoppers, pathological gamblers and kleptomaniacs had responded well to fluvozamine treatment. Katharine Phillips, a specialist in Body Dysmorphic Dis-

order, the disease of imagined ngliness, said "It is easy to trivialise these disorders, but they are very serious. BDD can torment sufferers, take over their lives and lead them to suicide. It doesn't go away by just telling people they look fine."

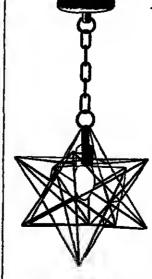
Sufferers would spend up to eight hours a day checking and rechecking their perceived defects in front of a mirror. But in a trial, Dr Phillips found 70 per cent of her patients felt better or much better after taking fluvoxamine for four months.

PRODUCT RECALL

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# Seven sue council in child abuse test

they suffered at the hands of child abuser Frank Beck yesterday began a claim for compensation in a test case.

More than 30 others will

awan the outcome of the hearing at the High Court in Nottingham before deciding whether to take similar action.

The seven claim Leicester-shire county council, which em-ployed Beck during his 13-year reign of abuse at three children's homes, was negligent in failing to provide a duty of care. The authority is contesting the case.

Beck was sentenced to five life terms for sexually abusing more than 100 children. Dozens of witnesses spoke of his cruelty during an 11-week trial at Leicester Crown Court in 1991.

His offences included rape and buggery. He died, aged 52. from a heart attack at Whitemoor prison, Cambridgeshire, in June 1994.

Between 1973 and 1986. Beck abused those in his care

Seven men and women who say at three children's homes in agement failings contributed Leicestershire. Only a chance remark by a mother accused of ill-treating her son sparked an investigation in 1989, three years after Beck had quit as head of the three homes.

Richard Maxwell QC, representing the alleged victims, told the court yesterday the council had originally accepted the findings of an independent inquiry, the Kirkwood report, which criticised the authority. But he said the council was now

"ducking and weaving".

Mr Maxwell said that in 1992 the council accepted the seven were "all victims of either physical abuse or psychological trau-

ma or sexual abuse". He went on: There was a cepted without equivocation there was no doubt there were very serious management.

Beck, formerly of Leicester, always protested his innocence.

At his trial, Mr Institute. very serious management fail-ings in the period 1973-1986 ... There was a time when the defendant accepted the Kirkwood report spelt out how these man-

to the evidence that culminated in the conviction of Beck."

One finding of the report was that the authority generally assumed children should not be believed. Mr Maxwell said: "We say that it was because of that assumption the defendant nev-

er investigated properly what the children were saying."

The report, written by An-drew Kirkwood QC, and published in February 1993, further showed poor monitoring of child care standards. Files on children who had died or left the homes were destroyed after

two years to save space. He said the council denied it had any duty of care to protect the children.

character combines considerable talents and very great evil."

The present case is likely to

last up to three months.



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# Chinook's final message puzzle

A mystery final message to air traffic controllers from the RAF Chinook helicopter which crashed into the Mull of Kintyre was yesterday played to a hushed inquiry into the tragedy.

It lasted only one or two seconds - and was indecipherable to non-expert listeners. It is now known to be an unidentified member of the Chinook crew saying: "Scottish military. Good afternoon. This is Foxtrot Four Juliet Four Zero."

As the brief message played to a silent courtroom, relatives of the dead listened intently.

The inquiry at Paisley, Strath-clyde, has been told that the message was sent to the Prestvick air traffic control centre at 5.55pm and 14 seconds on 2 June, 1994 - but was not responded to.

This was less than five minutes before the Chinook crashed with the loss of 29 lives, including Ulster's top police and military intelligence experts. The message was spotted when tape recordings were studied after the crash.

Wing Commander Donald Devine, in charge of the military side of the joint civil and military air traffic control operation at Prestwick, told the inquiry he had no explanation why the

message went unheard by the three military staff who were monitoring radio traffic.

A technical investigation had revealed no reason why the message should not have reached their headsets. He said an investigation had shown all three had their headsets on, and there was silence each side of the message - indicating there had been no conflicting messages which would have prevented them hearing it.

The wing commander said be had only been able to decipher the message on the tape after listening to it several times. It would have come to Prestwick from the two radio receivers about 70 nautical miles from the crash scene - on the Isle of Tiree and in the Scottish borders.

All three staff said they had not heard it - and the reason remained a mystery. There could have been some distraction from civilian air traffic controllers but staff had no recollection of this.

The wing commander agreed with John Mitchell QC, for the Crown, that the call remained a mystery. "Nothing on the equipment explains it?" asked Mr Mitchell. "No." said the wing commander.

### DAILY POEM

To the Barbarian:

By Else Lasker-Schüler

Night when I lie on your face,

on the steppe of your body, plant cedars & almonds,

tireless right thru your chest

I burrow, seek pharaoh's gold pleasures.

your lips grown so heavy my wonders won't ransom them,

oh take your snow skies away,

your diamond dreams cut thru my veins,

ĭ am Joseph, ĭ wear a sweet belt

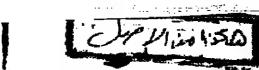
it girdles my many coloured skin.

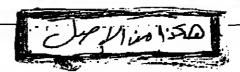
fearful roar of my shells brings you joy

but your heart will admit no new seas.

Anthologies which truly enlighten and shift perspectives are notoriously difficult to produce. The first of two volumes of *Poems for the Millenium* published by the University Press of California at Berkeley, remarkably, has succeeded. By offering "galleries" of poetry which coincide with the main artistic movements: Futurism, Expressionism, Dada, Surrealism, Chiestinian and Negrinda mostry is separated from its usu-Objectivism and Negritude, poetry is separated from its usual bed-fellow literature and joined to the main artistic movements of the century. Else Lasker-Schüler (1869-1945), one of the early great bohemian figures around Berlin, was an Expressionist "oriental in imagination, Jewish in theme, but German in lanugage" whose poem is translated here by Jerome Rothenberg and Pierre Joris.

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# Clarke pledges growth for year after year

DONALD MACINTYRE Political Editor

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, yesterday brushed aside doubts over his forecast of 3 per eent growth this year and pledged a rise in living standards "year after year after year".

Standing hy his budget

prediction, the Chancellor gave his bullish outline of rapidly improving economic prospects

net meeting partly intended to

a vote winner.

Mr Clarke told the British American Chamber of Com-merce: "I believe that the pundits who are being more pessimistic will he proved wrong." The Commons Treasury Select Committee and the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development

are among outside bodies which have questioned Mr Clarke's The Chancellor said that he

expected investment to pick up - thanks to the fall in inflation and steadily improving company bulance sheets - and added that conditions for firms "have rarely heen better".

And he told his business audience that he expected a significant increase in consumer

spending, fuelled by tax cuts, pay increases, payments from building society takeovers, maturing Tessas (tax-exempt savings), a strengthening housing market and rebates to customers from

the sell-off of the National Grid. Mr Clarke said: "The conditions for firms to invest have rarely been better. Inflation is low, providing the stability busies need when making long-decisions. Company

balance sheets are in very good shape, with profits rising by around 6 per cent over the past year. And thanks to inflationary pressures staying low, I was able to reduce interest

rates again last week."

He added: "Although it played an important role in the early stages of this recovery, consumer spending has not been the main source of growth over the past two years.

"This is rare for the British economy. It gives rise to all the chatter about the so-called fecl-good factor. Increased consumer spending should be the main source of growth in the economy as a whole this year." Mr Clarke added that he

was not interested in "delivering a one-year wonder" and set himself three tasks to ensure that stronger growth lasted for the long-term henefit of UK

Ltd. The Chancellor said that he intended to "do everything that I can to entrench the low inflation culture in our society".

This meant setting interest rates to achieve his inflation target of helow 2.5 per cent; but he also urged companies 10 keep firm control over pay. And it also meant controlling public spending and pushing ahead with improving the working of the economy by, for ex-

ample, privatising Railtrack and Nuclear Electric Today's Cabinet meeting. without Whitehall officials present, will focus on the fighthack against Labour. It will also concentrate on the need to dis-seminate what ministers believe

# Shadowy figure faces arms scandal inquiry

CHRIS BLACKHURST

stminster Correspondent

It was a terrible place to breakdown, on a hleak road in Argyll. As the two men struggled to repair their van, a car pulled up.

Instead of offering to help the driver got out, drew a pistol, shouted, "I'm a soldier you know" and unloaded two shots

In the circumstanees, the comment of one of the men -"it was not the kind of thing that happens in the countryside in the middle of the night" - was priceless.

Today, the hrandisher of the pistol appears before MPs. For Stephan Adolphus Kock it will be a rare public appearance. For the Trade and Industry Select Committee it will be a chance to examine one of the most shadowy figures to have risen from the worlds of intelligence and international arms.

Mr Kock was fined £650 for the incident in Argyll in 1990. His lawyer explained his client bad spent his career in the defence industry and had developed an acute concern for his personal safety.

At the time, along with MP Jonathan Aitken, he was a director of BMARC, the defence supplier accused of sending arms to Iran in deliance of a government embargo. Today, MPs will quiz Mr Kock over MPs to question maverick figure with contacts in

world of espionage He will almost certainly leap to Mr Aitken's defence and say

directors knew nothing of the true destination of naval guns. Drawing on a background in business and high finance - he was a consultant to the Midland bank as well as a director of BMARC and its Astra parent -Mr Kock, who is a hig, hluff

character, will impress MPs. There are, though, questions the committee would do well to ponder. Secretive about his life, Mr Kock is thought to have heen born in 1927 in Czechoslovakia. At some stage he em-



Stephan Kock: Linked to SAS, MI6 and Pergau Dam

sumably a reference to MI6.

gian firm, PRB, in 1989, it discovered the company was making propellant for the Iraqi supergun. Mr Kock contacted the security services. He later told a Department of Trade and Industry inquiry that he had summoned the deputy head of

igrated to Rhodesia and served in the country's air force. Subsequently he took British citizenship and worked for the

British government, A brochure issued by the Midland boasted "he carried out specialised du-ties for the British government in various parts of the world",

carried out special assignments for the Foreign Office", pre-

cretive role can be gleaned from two of the biggest scandals of recent times. He has admit-

MI5 to Astra's headquarters.

including serving with the SAS. An Astra newsletter said "he

A measure of Mr Kock's se-

ted to having been involved in the Pergau dam project in Malaysia. BMARC minutes reveal he had inside knowledge of the Malaysian defence package which formed the quid pro quo for British aid for Pergau. When Astra bought the Bel-

MPs may want to reflect on

this, and his undoubted clout with the intelligence services, if he claims he thought Singapore's small armed forces realv required 140 naval guns, and he did not bother to find out where they were actually going.

Role change: John Humphrys, the BBC presenter and newsreader, arriving at the Commons last night where he found himself on the receiving end of a grilling by a committee of Tory backbench MPs Photograph: Edward Sykes

### Lib Dems aim to oust Tories from TV slot

**PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES** Political Correspondent

A battle is on to dislodge the Tories from a prime broadcasting slot for the 2 May council elections in favour of the Liberal Democrats who are second

to Labour in local government. Under current arrangements

annually alternate the final and penultimate political hroadcasts, which would give John Major the Tuesday 30 April slot on BBC1, BBC2 and ITV.

But the Liberal Democrats are lobbying the BBC and the Independent Television Commission to drop the convention

now that the Tories are trailing third in terms of council seats and councils controlled.

Such a switch would be a severe humiliation to the Tories who face the potential loss of 700 more seats on top of the heavy losses inflicted last year. But a Liberal Democrat spokesman

control four times as many councils as the Conservatives."

The party will meanwhile lannch a direct appeal to disil-lusioned "One Nation" Tories with a party political broadcast tonight urging that the defection of Emma Nicholson has shown said: "We are second to Labour them a non-socialist alternative.

is good news about the economy to ensure that the electorate's economic optimism is matched by an improvement in the Tories' share of the vote

### **Tories cut** key clause in asylum Bill

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

The Government backed down yesterday over a key clause of its Asylum Bill, designed to make it harder for bogus

refugees to enter Britain. Labour claimed that Mo-hamed al-Masari, the Saudi dissident deported to the Caribbean island of Dominica, would probably have been sent back to Saudi Arabia if the clause of the proposed legislation had been in force at the time of his arrival.

Under the clause which the Government dropped yesterday, Dr Masari would have been sent back to Yemen, from where he arrived in Britain, and would have had to appeal against the refusal of asylum from there.

But the British adjudicator in Dr Masari's case ruled that his removal to Yemen would be "unsafe", according to Doug Henderson, Labour's home affairs spokesman. The adjudicator accepted that the Yemeni authorities could have removed him to Saudi Arabia, where he feared persecution.

Earlier this month the Goverament said it would send Dr Masari to the Caribbean in order to maintain good relations with Saudi Arabia, an important arms export market.

# Euro may be Frankenstein monster, warns Tebbit

Lora leddii yesieraay ahddea the emhryonic European currency, the Euro, a "Frankenstein" and held out the collapse of Dutch aircraft makers Fokker as a vision of the industrial future under a single

Though the former Tory party chairman was relaxed about the idea of a core of European Union members going ahead with the Euro, he told a Lords committee it was "extremely important" that Britain remain

The disintegration of Fokker, with the expected loss of 8,000 jobs in the Netherlands, was a "elassie example" of the perils of a single currency. The international civil aircraft market was tied to the US dollar but the Dutch guilder was kept high be-cause it was tied to the German mark, Lord Tebbit said.

Peers on the European Communities Committee are conducting an inquiry into the consequences of a minority of EU countries going it alone on monetary union - shadowing the ministerial study claimed by John Major as his success at December's Madrid summit.

Collapse of Dutch aircraft firm used to show 'peril' of single currency as Lords debate staying out of monetary union



Lord Tehhit's thesis was echoed - or informed - by Pro-fessor Patrick Minford, the right-wing economist, who had no qualms about Britain being "part of the awkward squad"

Goodwin

over monetary union. Both were dismissive of suggestions that, as Lord Tebbit put it," the caddish British, irresponsible Italians or the devious Greeks" would devalue their currencies to gain an edge over a single currency group committed to the German path of

They also emphasised that any discrimination by the "ins" to counter the competitive ad-

vantage of the "outs" would be in breach of the Treaty of

Prof Minford acknowledged the fear of industrialists, relayed by Lord Haslam, chairman of Bechtel and former head of British Steel, that the "ins" would retaliate if their husi-

nesses were suffering. The "resentment factor" was a very valid concern, Prof Minford said, pointing out that mward investment was based on the fact that Britain was already 40 per cent cheaper than Ger-

many in labour costs. If access to the single market continued unehecked and Britain stayed outside the social chapter, then the country would remain the place for the Japanese to invest. "Europe will have to change," Prof Minford said. It could not continue in a "culde-sae" of social protection that enabled Britain to capture such a huge percentage of in-

vestment. Lord Tebbit disagreed with Baroness O'Cathain, a Col servative, that the "ins" would have more power and influence

over EU economic policy. "Not necessarily," he replied "Before long they would face the reality that you can't have two finance ministers for one currency and they would move inexorably to political union. Whether that would be a 'lovein or a political disaster we may

all have to guess." Later, Baroness Chalker. Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told peers the Government had "ruled nothing in and nothing out" over joining a single currency by the opti-mistic date of 1 January 1999.

Her words will not be music to the ears of Tory Euro-sceptics who yesterday again called on the Prime Minister to declare his opposition to the Euro.

As the group launched a document warning of an avalanche of directives from Brussels, Teresa Gorman, MP for Billericay, said John Major had "a golden opportunity to take another initiative in order to distinguish us from Labour who are going to cave in to Europe hook, line and sinker".



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### Former 'wet' attacks right-wing lurch

Chief Political Correspondent

In an astonishing attack on John Major's leadership, a for-mer Cabinet minister has accused the Tories of lurching towards right-wing nationalist extremism. Lord Gilmour, a Tory peer, and one of the lead-

met, accuses the Tories of being more right-wing under Mr Major than under Baroness Thatcher, reopening the wounds over the One Nation group of Tory MPs.

His intervention will infuriate Tory party leaders meeting extremism. Lord Gilmour, a today to discuss strategy for uniting the party, with Tory ing "wets" in the Thatcher Cab-

ing the One Nation Tory MPs that they have woken up to the leader, if they are forced into opposition after the election. "National Liberalism will be

age inflicted on Labour over the Harriet Harman affair. Warn-tional Liberalism which will not be akin to National Socialism but which will still be deeply right-wing lurch too late, he pre-dicts in *Prospect*, a political monthly, that the Tories will choose Michael Portillo as their our European partners...while not jibbing at sealing off our finest public buildings and our

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Your car can say a lot about you. Or you can speak for yourself. First Lady in the spotlight: Grand jury appearance eclipses President Clinton's big speech

# Hillary faces ordeal over Whitewater

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

Mercifully for the dignity of the presidency, Hillary Clinton will be able to use a tunnel from an underground garage when she enters the District of Columbia's federal courthouse for her appointment with the Whitewater grand jury oo Friday, thus escaping a media horde that might stretch from one end of Pennsylvania Avenue to the other.

But that is prohably the only consolation to be drawn by the White House from ao embarrassment never visited before upon a First Lady. Mrs Clinton, as her defenders tirelessly argue, may have committed no crime. But her summons alone has been a public relations disaster for a White House girding up for the President's State of the Union address last night, which for all practical purposes was the first salvo in his 1996 hattle for re-election.

The minds of his audieoce of senators, congressmen and notables from every walk of life were less preoccupied with lofty presidential observations on taxes, a halanced budget, Bosnia or other burning topics than the political predicament brought about by his wife.

Four years after the details of a minor property veoture first began to interest the American press, the Republican party and the judiciary, Mrs Clinton is more inextricably enmeshed in Whitewater's coils than ever. The woman who was a huge campaign asset for her husband m 1992 has become the most divisive First Lady in modern history - and a potential millstone in the election.

Even before news of the subpoena issued by the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, emerged on Monday evening, her disapproval ratings stood above 50 per cent in opinion

Of itself her appearance before the grand jury (an inves-

tigative as well as accusatory body which determines what if any charges should be brought in a case) proves nothing. Neither she nor the President has heen indicted of any wrong-doing in the tangle of 1980s husiness dealings in Arkansas collectively known as Whitewater, nor has she received a "target letter" from the special prosecutor that would indicate she is a suspect.

In many respects, the affair is straight out of Pirandello - a cast of players in search of a crime or, as a Washington Post newspaper columnist wrote yesterday,



Bill Clinton: The 'character question' has been revived

a roomful of shady characters but no corpse," where conspir-acy theories are 10 a penny but facts are rare as gold dust. But the mere allegations of misdeeds by the First Lady suffice to revive the "character question" which has dogged her husband ever since he took office.

Grand jury proceedings are secret, but the issue at the heart of the Friday hearings is clear: whether the White House, in the person of Mrs Clinton, her personal aides or any other functionary, conspired to obstruct justice over a sheaf of documents subpoenaed and sought in vain for two years, which then turned up in a private room in the private quarters in the East Wing of the White House.

The 116 pages detail work done by Mrs Clinton as a partner in the Rose law firm in Little Rock on behalf of Madison Guaracty, the savings bank which collapsed in 1989 and which was owned by the Clintons' former partner in the original Whitewater property venture. The whereabouts of the documents since 1992, when they were found to be missing from

the Rose files, have been a mystery. They are covered with annotations by Vince Foster, Mrs Clinton's former Rose colleague, and close friend who moved to Washington with the Clintons in 1993 to become deputy White House counsel. That July Mr Foster committed suicide. The Republican-led committee on Capitol Hill investigating Whitewater instructes that the papers were improperly taken from Mr Foster's office by staff of Mrs Then on 4 January they reap-

peared - lying on a table in the book room of the residence. In testimony last week, the aide who happened upon them, Mrs Clintoo's director of personal correspondence, Carolyn Huber, said she thought they had been left there with the deliberate purpose of being found. Ms Huber has already testified before the grand jury. Now it is Mrs Clinton's turn, along with an executive assistant, her private lawyer, and Gary Walters, the head White House usher.

But the closer the examination, the more numerous the questions. Why should the documents have turned up at all? If they are as innocuous as Mrs Clinton insists why did they vanish in the first place? And what was Vince Foster's involvement?

More than 20 years ago, Alexander Haig attributed the erasure of 18 minutes of Oval Office tapes sought by the Watergate investigators to "sinister forces". In the case of the re-



found files, the same unearthly powers are apparently at work. Hearings could imperit her husband's re-election Photograph: Wilfredo Lee/AP Photograph: Wilfredo Lee/AP

# Art world agog over NY's 'new Michelangelo'

DAVID USBORNE

New York can boast many priceless artworks, in galleries from the Guggenheim to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. hut it has not been able to count a sculpture by Michelangelo among them. Not until now.
In a find that has the art world

agog, it seems that a 3ft (1m) statue of a naked boy hearing a quiver of arrows in the shape of a lioo's paw, unnoticed for years in the lobby of a Fifth Avenue mansion belonging to the French government, may be an early work of the 16th-century Italian master.

Credit for the discovery is being conferred on Dr Kathleen Weil-Garris Brandt, a lecturer at the New York Institute of Fine Arts. She had for years been familiar with the statue, which rests on a Roman-style altar in the gloomy lobby of a house built at the turn of the century by a famous New York architect, Stanford White. The huilding is just around the corner from the Institute and hous-

es the Freoch cultural ceotre. It was only last October, that the possibly great origins of the piece began to dawn on Dr Brandt. The cultural ceotre was the veoue for an exhibitioo of French decorative arts, and

for the first time, Dr Brandi saw the statue under the revealing glare of spotlights. "It reminded me forcefully in its every detail of the earliest works of Michelangelo." she said.

Subsequeor research has revealed that the extensively damaged piece was offered at auction in Loodon in 1902 by a Floreotine collector, Stefano Bardini. It failed to attract a good price and was returned to taly, where Mr White acquired it from a dealer. He shipped the statue to New York, and set it in the lobby of his oew mansion.

Among those supporting Dr Brandt's theory is Nicholas Penny, chief curator for the Italian Renaissance at the National Gallery in London. "I am convinced she is right," he told the New York Times. "The more one looks at it, the more it grows on one, not only as a remarkable work of art but something that makes sense as a work of Michelangelo".

The Metropolitan Museum of Art has offered to exhibit the boy, but is only one among several museums manoeuvring to provide him with a new - and presumably better-lit - haven. There has been no word so far from the French government. nor from the directors of a great art museum far from New York, the Louvre.

### Galileo unlocks Jupiter surprises

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

Astronomers around the world are digesting the news that Jupiter's atmosphere contains almost no water, and less helium than expected. They may now have to rethink theories on how the planets formed.

The information, just re-leased by Nasa, the US space agency, came from the Galileo space probe, which travelled to the enormous gas giant's outer atmosphere and dropped a smaller probe into it last month. The data has taken until now to be sent back and collated.

The probe found that the expected cloud structure - three

layers of ammonia, ammonium hydrosulphide, and water and ice - was not there. The absence of water and lightning, essential prerequisites for life, puzzled researchers, who had expected to find both. They were also surprised by the low levels of he-

lium, oxygen and neon.

The density, temperature and wind speeds of the atmosphere were all higher than expected, which has led astronomers to wonder if their ideas about how the planet formed are correct. Richard Young, of Nasa's Ames Research Center, said "We are left to wonder, 'Where is the oxygen? Where is the water?'

News Analysis, page 13

# The heart to grieve for all America's Billy Baileys

Dover, Delaware — You look at Anne Coleman and you wonder how a human being can

endure so much. Her oldest son, Tim, is brain-damaged, the victim of a brutal, unprovoked assault hy strangers. Her daughter Frances was murdered, aged 24, in a Los Angeles back street, leaving a two-year-old child. The youngest of her three children, Danny, devastated by his sister's death, committed suicide.

Tonight a close friend, a douhle murderer by the name of Billy Bailey, will hang from the Delaware gallows.

All these calamities seem a long way from Lutterworth, in Leicestershire, where she was born in 1941 and led, until her departure for the United States aged 17, an uncommonly theatrical, but far from tragic, family life. Shortly after the end of the Secood World War her mother had an affair with a German prisoner of war who was 18 vears her junior. In 1948 her parents divorced, and mother married her Germao lover.

When Anne was 16 and just out of school, she met an American air force sergeant, Claude Coleman, who was based at Lutterworth. Sgt Coleman was 30 and hlack. He was the first hlack person she had ever seen. In the face of fierce family op-position, she married him. "My father was outraged. He said it wouldn't last six months. We've been married 38 years."

That was the only piece of good news Mrs Coleman related during a three-hour conversation at her home in Dover, a small and unremarkable American town in a sliver of a state barely bigger than the county where she was born. Since moving to Dover three years ago from Buffalo in New York state. she has risen above her neighbourhood's tranquil anonymity, making a name for herself in Delaware as a fervent campaigner against the death penaly - a stand which seems hard to reconcile with the mother of a woman whose killer was never caught.

"Look," she said, "if someone had given me a gun at the time and said 'This man killed Frances,' I would cheerfully John Carlin on why one Englishwoman campaigns against execution in the US

heat of the moment. The anger, sorrow, everything. But rationally I know I couldn't shoot someone. And I would never countenance the state doing it for me. It is a sickening, barbaric and medieval practice."

In the US, in particular, it was a terrible lottery", Mrs Cole-man said, in which the more poor and helpless you are, the greater the chances that you will be convicted of murder and sen-

tenced to die. Had Billy Bailey been de-fended by OJ Simpson's dream team" of lawyers, instead of by a public defender who had been disbarred from private practice for not caring enough about his clicots, it is unlikely he would be on Death Row.

Bailey's crime, Mrs Coleman acknowledges, was horrendous. He shot dead an elderly couple in an alcoholic frenzy after robhing a liquor store. But the circumstances of his life, which she teased out of him during 18 mooths of Death Row visits, made such an explosioo almost

"He's been a thief all his life.

have killed him. But that was the Even as a child he had to steal food to survive. He was one of 23 children. They lived in a tworoom shack with their father, who married four times. Billy's mother died when he was six

months old. "The woman his father remarried was hrutal to Billy. When he was 10 his father died, and after the funeral was over she abandoned Billy and his 12-year-old sister at the

cemetery." A married half-brother brought him to Delaware. The half-brother abused and beat him and during all of his teens he was in and out of juvenile detection centres. Billy, I think, is someone condemned to death the moment he was

born," she said. Prisoo was Bailey's first home. She was his first mother. "Even though he's only six years younger than 1 am, I feel very maternal towards him, because he's never had any af-fection in his life." When she visited Bailey for the last time oo Saturday he asked her for a strange gift of love: to be his witness at the hanging. She agreed, but the warden refused.



Billy Bailey: He goes to the Delaware gallows tonight

warden fears a botched job, and would rather avoid Mrs Coleman telling the world about it, drawing graphic attention to the fact that for its population Delaware has a higher execution

American state. "Last week," Mrs Coleman said, explaining her suspicions, four people from the Delaware corrections departmeot weot to Washingtoo state to learn how to hang people. No one here knows how to do it. In Washington state they've had two in the last five years, so they're the American experts. I believe they've been doing some hanging training with heavy

rate than Texas, or any other

sacks since they got back. They're weighing Billy daily." Bailey has also had to suffer the indignity of having his false teeth removed, for fear that he deliberately chokes himself on them. But he has retained some vestiges of pride. A curious sense of pride. He was given the option of being executed by lethal injection — indeed, the authorities have pleaded with him to allow himself to be killed that way - hut he was originally sentenced to hang and has exercised his legal right to ensure the sentence is enforced. 'I'm not a dog," he has told Mrs Coleman. "I'm not going to let

them put me to sleep". Bailey is scheduled to hang ooe minute after midnight tonight (just after 5am British time tomorrow). Mrs Coleman means to demonstrate all day today in protest at his execution outside the Governor's house. At night she will camp as near as she can to a harn inside the prisoo where the gallows has been erected. "You know the time of death when it comes," said Mrs Coleman, who has attended these grisly vigils before. "You feel it in the air. It's like

a huge collective gasp."

When the gasping is done
Mrs Coleman will return home and she will sit and grieve for Billy Bailey, for her son and daughter and all the other Billy Baileys, all 3,046 of them at the last count, that await his fate oo America's Death Rows. She will grieve as only she

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# UN seeks deal for new Boutros term



**Boutros-Ghali:** Saving face

MICHAEL SHERIDAN Diplomatic Editor

A high-level deal is under discussion at the United Nations to guarantee the re-election of the Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, oo condition that he steps down after two more years in office.

Mr Boutros-Ghali, 73, completes his first term at the end of this year, and most senior UN officials believe he will want to run for a second five-year term. The Secretary-Geoeral has not stated his intentions publicly and

that he was undecided. He has, however, engaged a high-profile spokeswoman, Sylvana Foa, to improve the UN's presentain New York.

The attraction of the bargain is that it would allow Mr Boutros-Ghali to preserve his dignity and it would avoid an embarrassing conflict over a job that is falsely supposed to be decided by international goodwill and consensus. "None of the credible contenders would want

gave the impression in private against an incumbent," said a mats from the major regional olomat. "That's the way it is." powers at the UN. According to Article 97 of the UN Charter, "the Secretary-General shall The deal would require Mr

Boutros-Ghali to step down at the end of 1998, when he will tion of its case at headquarters be 76, thus creating the precedeot for a single seven-year period in office. Critics of the present UN system argue that restricting the Secretary-General to one seven-year term would remove the propensity for patronage and electioneering which plagues all top UN jobs and hampers reform.

fairs of Egypt, appeared an ideal candidate before his elec-The arrangement is under intion in 1991 - a Coptic Christ-

the gift of elegant French and fluent English. But his period in office has

coincided with the sharp decline be appointed by the General in hopes for a greater UN role Assembly upon the recomin global affairs and a continumendation of the Security ing budgetary crisis which has sapped the morale of the or-Council." In practice the appointment involves a delicate ganisation. He has disappointed some key member states who wanted wholesale reform of the UN, while he has become harmooy between regional, racial and linguistic sensitivities. Mr Boutros-Ghali, a former minister of state for foreign afinvolved in sharp conflicts with the US over UN peace keeping operations in Somalia and

Tokyo trains set to fly into future

on a visit to London this month to run in a contested election formal discussion among diploian married to a Jew, an Arab
Bosnia. His personal relations
gave the impression in private desired as incombact a contested election formal discussion among diploian married to a Jew, an Arab
Bosnia. His personal relations UN, Madeleine Albright, are said by one official to be "prick-\_ breaking into shonting

matches on occasion". Some member states believe Mr Boutros-Ghali's style, like

that of his predecessors, has become too similar to the protocol of a minor head of state. They would prefer the job to revert to its original description in the UN Charter as "the chief administrative officer of the Organisation" as part of a general reform of the UN.

# Bosnians agree to free Serb prisoners

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CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY

The Bosnian government showed signs vesterday of soft-ening its demand for informa-tion on thousands of people who are missing and presumed dead in Serb-held areas of Bosnia.

The Muslim-led government had refused to release Bosnian Serb prisoners unless it learnt the fate of the missing.

Although some Serb and

Croat prisoners have been set free, about 600 detainces from all three factions still await rclease, which should have taken place by last Friday under the Dayton agreement. But yesterday the US human rights envoy, John Shattuck, said after talks in Sarajevo with President Alija Izetbegovic: "I was assured by the Presideot that he will continue to release prisoocrs."

This followed a warning by the US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, that Bosnia could lose US aid to rebuild its army and repair war damage.

The International Red Cross. which is responsible for overseeing the release of prisoners of war, and the peace implementation force, I-For, insists that the release of prisoners must be unconditional. But the Bosnian government has insisted on using the Serb prisoners as a bargaining counter. cootrary to international humanitarian law.

The peace agreement continues to hold. In the Britishcootrolled sector, two Bosnian military police vehicles have been seized in the 4km-wide zone of separation straddling the ceasefire line and weapons have been confiscated.

On Monday the Bosnian government army in Travnik told the British liaison officer they were going to test some 105mm and 122mm artillery rounds. Under the peace agreement. they have to give five days' notice for such firings. According to a British spokesman, the liaison officer raised a "red card" but the Bosnian corps said the ammunition had been manufactured at a local factory and that the Dayton provisions therefore did not apply.

Whereas the area overnin by the Bosnian Croats in September is almost deserted and shows the signs of recent devastation, the area which has been returned to Bosnian government control appears less adly damaged, and yesterday local people were out walking and children were playing.

But the former battle fronts are mainly quiet. Large areas formerly cootrolled by the Bosnian Serbs and recaptured in the final phase of the war are now open to traffic from the Muslim-Croat federation and the UN, and from I-For, which enjoys freedom of movement

over the whole country. The government has also re-established control over a tarmac road running across the wild and desolate Ozren district. dramatically improving access to the big city of Tuzla, which for years could be reached only over a tortuous mountain route. Along the strategic highway, new road signs have sprouted. pointing to Tuzla. They appear to be a proclamation of victo-

# Kinnock puts his money on single European currency

Brussels — Neil Kinnock, the European Uoion Transport Commissioner, is strongly urging a new Labour government to take Britain into the single currency at the start, should oth-er countries decide to go ahead in 1999. Mr Kinnock also believes it would be a "perilous" error for Tony Blair, the Labour leader, to hold a referendum on the single currency heforc

deciding whether to join. So far, Mr Blair has made no commitment to join mooetary union in 1999, saying Labour's decision would be based on the "consent" of the people, which could mean h intends to hold a referendum, or call for a mandate to join the single currency in the next election. In an interview with the Independent, a year after he joined the European Commission, Mr Kin-nock stressed this week that he has no wish to "back-seat drive". But he warned that if the single curreocy begins io 1999, "life outside for any length of time for any major economy would not be easy."

Mr Kinnock spoke with confidence and optimism about a Labour victory in the next election, and predicted that Mr Blair would emerge as a new leader for Europe's centre-left over the next decade, saying:
"He has the brains and the will. I think he can do it, though he might not realise it yet." The for-

Neil Kinnock tells Sarah Helm why Britain must join EMU from the start

izens' network" to boost Europe's public transport.

However, his confident predictions about Labour and Europe are clearly rooted in the assumption that Labour must first strengthen its commitment to a single currency. A referendum on a single issue, such as monetary union, would achieve nothing for Labour, he helieves. "I think salami refpolicy are perilous — perilous to the national interest, and not just to the reputation of politicians. I am not offering advice to the leader of the Labour Party. But if there was a referen-

day he launched plans for a "cit-dum, for whatever reasons. then it could be about one realistic question - in or out." Any overt attempt by Mr Kinnock to influence the British political debate on Europe in the run-up to a British election would be deemed highly controversial in Brussels. In November, Mr Kinnock angered his Commission partners by suggesting in a private speech in Britain that the 1999 target erendums on specific aspects of date for the single currency was "unrealistic" — which some observers speculated was designed to help Labour. The claim is entirely unproven, and Mr Kinnock refuses to repeat his prediction, having been



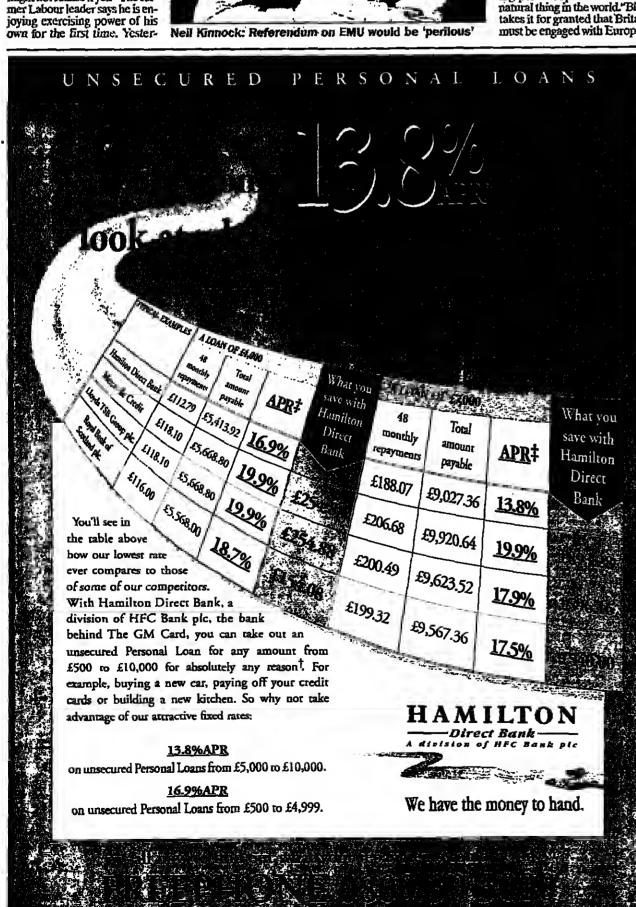
reprimanded by Jacques Santer, the Commission President. However, he still maintains

that a delay for EMU would not be disastrous, and dismisses predictions that it would lead to a collapse for the EU, saying the idea that monetary union is only sustainable and credible if it takes place on a particular day "is simply not supportable". He continued: "I think the fu-ture will be better with monetary union, but the idea that this edifice will fall apart if it doesn't start in 1999 is an overstatement, to say the least."

Mr Kinnock knows that his moderate, anti-federalist views can only help Labour in its at-tempts to defuse Eurosceptic sentiment. Mr Kinnock is eager to emphasise that federalism has gone out of fashion: "There is nobody in Brussels who really wants to huild a super-state."

He talks of the need to strengthen the powers of national parliaments over decision-making in Brussels. Federalist expectations raised by Maastricht were "misplaced", and changed circumstances now demand more "restraint" when the new inter-governmental conference starts in March.

Neil Kinnock campaigned for a "No" vote in the 1975 referendum on Europe. That, he says today, was "a very long time ago", and he now talks as if being pro-European is the most natural thing in the world. Blair takes it for granted that Britain must be engaged with Europe."



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# Geoplane system; Japanese scientists are seeking finance to develop the winged subway train which would 'ffy' 400 commuters between Tokyo and Osaka at up to to be a proclamation of vict 375mph, cutting the journey time from three hours to 50 minutes Photograph: Reuter ry, as much as information. Delors doubts on EMU fuel Euro-scepticism in France

MARY DEJEVSKY

Could it be that France, until now one of the most fervent supporters of a single European currency, is having second thoughts about the project? Oo and off the record, senior French officials are adamant that nothing is amiss. But wheo Jacques Delors, former president of the European Commission and an architect of the Maastricht treaty, says that eveo he is having serious doubts, the prospects for a sin-

gle currency seem to dim.
In the Bordeaux newspaper Sud-Ouest yesterday, Mr Delors referred to evidence of an economic slowdown in Europe and said: "The news from France and Germany is not reassuring. It will be difficult to achieve ecocomic and monetary union within the agreed timetable (by I January, 1999]." Only four months ago, Mr Delors was insisting that the deadline could

and would be met. Mr Delors, of course, is not the French government, nor yet a memher of any elected body in France, though he advises the Socialist opposition. As one of France's most faithful Europhiles and most popular

they also chimed with a certain Euro-sceptical tendeocy in France that seems, if not to be growing, then to be edging into

Flying underground: An artist's concept of the proposed £250bn turbo-prop powered

the open without apology. The day before the interview appeared, donbts about the single currency or its timetable were voiced by two other senior figures in France, both seen as supporters of the project. Jean Gandois, president of the main French employers' organisation, said cheerfully that if the January 1999 deadline were not met. "I wouldn't see it as a crisis; what is important is the movement towards a single currency...not the calendar."

The other, Marc Viénot, head of ooe of France's higgest banks, Société Générale, was more forthright. Citing the slowing of economic growth, he described France's chances of meeting the single currency cri-teria as "negligible". The Maastricht treaty, he said, should be renegotiated and the introduction of the single currency postpooed.

Their comments were published only days after two longstanding opposeots of the treaty - the chairman of the Natiooal Assembly, Philippe

political figures, however, his Séguin, and the head of Peuper cent this year, and the budwords are coticed. In this case, geot, Jacques Calvet, had come get deficit prove impossible to geot, Jacques Calvet, had come out with fierce restatements of

their position. Mr Séguin said he regarded the idea that it was "now or oever" for the single currency as "stupidity of historic pro-portions". Mr Calvet, for his part, said that the fall of the Berlin wall had rendered the Maastricht treaty irrelevant. "Maastricht oo longer exists," he said. "Maastricht is dead."

The question is whether they sensed that the national mood might now be running in their favour, or whether the government quietly set the single cur-rency "debate" in train to prepare public opinion for what would be a major change of pol-icy. The prospect that growth in France could fall as low as 1.5

get deficit prove impossible to shrink without risking social unrest, could make a revision of the single currency timetable a tempting option.

Key people still insist, how-ever, that France is on course for 1999. The governor of the Bank of France, Jean-Claude Trichet, said last week that France could meet the criteria, and on time. Senior officials oote that any change would require a renegotiation of the Maastricht treaty, and fresh ratification by the French parliament - the inference being that it might oot get through. But their assurances are increasingly sprinkled with references to "flexibility" and "pragmatism", leaving plenty of

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# Bushians agree to free Serb prisoners

# Amir tells court he shot Rabin 'for God'

PATRICK COCKBURN

Yigal Amir confessed yesterday to killing Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's prime minister, but said it was unpremeditated. In a rambling statement at the start of his trial, he said: "My aim was to shoot him in such a way as to end his activity as prime minister, either by paralysing him or, if there was no choice, by killing him."

Asked if he regretted mur-dering Rahin, Mr Amir, 25, a law student from a religious family, said: "No." He also said he carried out the assassination "for the greater glory of God". His lawyer said he had advised him not to make a statement but that it amounted to a plea of not guilty to premeditated murder.

Mr Amir's claim that he would have preferred to wound Rabin was contradicted by a policeman who spoke to him in the hours after the assassination. He said when he told Mr Amir, as a test, that Rabin was not dead, he appeared disappointed and said: "That cannot be."

Mr Amir also seemed to contradict himself when he admitted he fired twice more after the first shot to make sure Rabin would die. "I didn't want to leave any chance that he would stay alive as prime minister," he said.

There was an element of farce as the trial began in Tel Aviv, because of a dispute between Mr Amir's lawyers, Jonathan Goldberg and Mordechai Offri, who contradicted each other.

Mr Offri said there were differences over what line to take and at the end of the hearing, adjourned until Sunday, said he did not know if he was still representing Mr Amir.

Excerpts from Mr Amir's

interrogation by the Shin Bet security agency throw tight on his character and beliefs. He said once he was aware something was a religious commandment

there is no moral problem. If I was conquering the tand now, I would have to kill babies and children, as it is written in [the Book of Joshua."

On the question of how many people were involved in the plot to kill Rahin, Mr Amir and his hrother Hagai were given repeated lie-detector tests. Asked Are you hiding people from us who were involved in the preparation?" both said "No". The lie detector indicated that both were lying.
The police at first said they

betieved there was a conspira-cy to kill Rabin but later backed away from the claim. A reason for this was the disclosure that one of those under arrest, Avishai Raviv, was a long-serving Shin Bet agent. The far right, under attack for creating the atmosphere of violence last year, began to say the government's agents provocateurs were involved in the assassination.

There was evidently a broadranging conspiracy to oppose by force the Oslo peace accords and the withdrawal from the West Bank. Its members were religious students at Bar-Ilan university, who had access to military equipment through the Golani Brigade, in which some of them had served.

They planned to attack Palestinian targets, but at least three, the Amir brothers and Dror Adoni, started to stalk Rabin and consider ways of assassinating him. On the night of 4 November, however, Yigal Amir apparently acted alone when he decided to wait for Rabin to leave a peace rally held in front of Tel Aviv city hall. Rwandan Hutus fleeing Burundi violence cross into Tanzania. Some 15,000 got in; in front of Tel Aviv city hall. 19,000 are trapped in no man's land after the border was closed Photograph: Reuter



Burundi crisis: Government dithers as ethnic killings multiply and country slides into chaos

### Life of terror for Hutus in 'dead city' Frontières. The mission's single-DAVID ORR storey school buildings now Bujumbura serve as living quarters for the destitute families. Elsewhere around the mis-Bible by his side, Daniet Nahimana lies on a bed in a makeshift health centre on the sion station are dotted hundreds of box-like corrugated iron sheloutskirts of Burundi's capital. A ters covered with tarpaulins, the bandage on his right teg marks muddy paths between them cluttered with ragged children the bullet wound he received when sotdiers moved into the nearby hillside settlement and women hent over cooking where he was staying. He ran Occasionally gunfire can be heard in the hills. The Hutu into a banana grove when the shooting started but was hit as hullets sprayed his hiding place. "There are no Hutu guerrilfamilies who continue to seek refuge at the Centre Johnson sleep"]. In recent weeks, Hutu guersay it is the sound of the Bulas in this area," says Mr Nahi-

mana, who once lived in the predominantly Hutu suburb of Kamenge, which was "cleansed" of its residents by the army last

"The soldiers are attacking ordinary civilians. My house in Kamenge was destroyed, so I had to stay with relatives. Now it's no longer safe in the hills. My wife and children have gone to live with other family mem-bers. We have nothing left."

Mr Nahimana, a builder, used to work alongside Tutsis, but after the escalation of ethnic conflict last year he no longer felt it safe to move around Bujumhura.

Across from him lies a Hutu woman wearing a T-shirt bear-ing the smiling face of the Pope. Odette Nyabenda was shot in the neck when she recently returned to visit her house in Kamenge. Her voice a feeble croak, she says she did not even see the people who shot her.

There are other wounded in the bare-walled room, among them a little girl who was shot through both legs. Outside are clustered some women, prepar-ing beans and maize delivered once a week by the United Nations World Food Programme. They are among 4,000 former Kamenge residents now living at the Centre Johnson, a Plymouth Brethren mission station at the foot of the hills overlooking Bujumhura. The sick are tended by murses from the aid agency Medecins sans rundian army attacking inno-cent Hutu civilians. For its part, the military claims the opera-tions are designed to weed out the bandes armées, or Hutu guerrillas.

The Centre Johnson is one of the last Hutu enclaves on the edge of an almost exclusively Tutsi town. No taxi driver wants to go there. You might as well ask a Northern Ireland toyalist to walk up the Falls Road singing "God Save the Queen".

On quiet days Hutu traders still venture into the marketplace to sell their produce, but to do so they must run the gauntlet of the Tutsi youth gangs who patrol the streets.

These thugs, known variousas the Sans Echecs (Without Failure) and the Sans Defaite (Without Defeat), have been mplicated in the massacres of Hutus which have been taking place with increasing frequen-cy throughout Burundi during the past year.

The presence of heavily armed soldiers from the large-ly Tutsi army does little to allay the fears of the few remaining Hutus coming into the capital. For the past week, Bujum-bura has been subjected to a ville

morte, or dead city, action by Tutsi extremists of the Society of Youth for Democracy (Sojedem). This misleadingly named militant grouping, whose avowed

aim is the ousting of the de-

mocratically elected Hutu pres-

ident, Sylvestre Ntiban-

tunganya, has succeeded in paralysing much of the town. Civil servants, bank officials and other workers have been intimidated into staying at home. and there has been little traffic in the streets. By the time of the evening curfew, Bujumbura has

become a ghost town.
The increase in military "actions" in the countryside by the army and by Tutsi militias has seen a corresponding rise in the incidents of sabotage by Hutu extremist groups such as the Intagoheka ["Those who never

rilla attacks against electricity and other installations have phinged Bujumbura into darkness and cut the water supply.

"The Hutu guerrilla war is probably only starting," said one aid worker. "What we've seen is nothing compared with what they might soon be doing: firing rockets on the town from the hills, blowing up bridges and laying mines." The government, an in-

creasingly ineffectual coalition of Hutu and Tutsi parties, seems incapable of acting to prevent the country's slide into chaos, which began two and a half years ago with the assassination of Melchior Ndadzye, Burundi's first Hutu president.

Despite pleas for calm from President Ntibantunganya and his Tutsi Prime Minister, Antoine Nduwayo, attacks continue to mount and killers act with impunity.

The government has launched a half-hearted programme of sensibilisation, preaching the virtues of reconciliation to the populace. But with the leadership so obviously imsure what course to steer, the venture has, not surprisingly, generated little enthusiasm. The other day Mr Nduwayo invited a gathering of government ministers and top civil servants to present their proposals for a return to peace: a single raised hand, a few rambling speeches and prolonged periods of silence were the muted response.

# N Korea's odd game plan worries West

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Picture the scene. We are in Korea at the final of the 2002 football World Cup. As the striker for the united All-Korea side powers his third goal past the Japanese keeper, the crowd of weeping North and South Koreans embrace one another like brothers. At a ceremony in the demilitarised zone between the divided states, the Cup is jointly presented by the retired president of the South, Kim Young Sam, and Kim Jong II,

the North's "Dear Leader". This bizarre scenario is conjured up by a remarkable communication, sent by the North Korean FA, it Korean government to Fifa, football's world governing body.

of the North Korean FA, it would select the squad? Above all, which of the rival Koreas, still technically at war, would points should be solved with regard to the plan of a North-host the final?

But in other respects, it has been a tense winter. In October, a pair of spies were shot as they been a tense winter. In October, both the final?

Cross this week echoed claims by the UN that 130,000 North-tried to penetrate the South, Since hids closed last year, the race for the 2002 World Cup has been a contest between South Korea and Japan. As in the runup to the 1988 Seoul Olympics. the idea of a united Korean hid was raised, but tensions on the

impossible. Then yesterday, the South Korean Football Association revealed the contents of a fax that was sent two weeks ago to Fifa's general secretary, Joseph

peninsula last year rendered it

gard to the plan of a North-South joint hosting of the 2002 World Cup".

On the South Korean World Cup committee, the fax caused a tournament to promote harmony in the world's last Cold War flashpoint would be almost irresistible to Fifa.

No one else gives the idea a chance. Apart from the lack of time (the host nation will be chosen in June), the obstacles

The affair illustrates the nervousness of the Pyongyang government, which is one day threatening war, the next suggreat excitement. They believe gesting joint sporting events.

Tomorrow senior officials from South Korea, the United States and Japan will gather in Hawaii to read the tea leaves at a puzzling time for the divided peninsula.

Food aid to Pyongyang will be at the top of the agenda. It has look insuperable. What curbeen a cause of deep concern Blatter. Signed by the chief rency would be used, and who since floods in the summer

by the UN that 130,000 Northerners face starvation unless donor states lop up relief supplies. Japan is sceptical and the US cautious. South Korea insists further shipments must

tions between the two countries. The mere presence of foreign charities is a turnaround for Pyongyang. For 40 years, it rejected almost all foreign contact. Optimists view the country's needy state as a chance to draw it into the international community.

be linked to improved rela-

tried to penetrate the South, while the defection of North Korean military officers and diplomats has been denounced by Pyongyang. Last week a meeting between US and North Korea to discuss the return of American bodies from the Korean War ended in acrimony.

In December, Pyongyang's troop movements raised fears of an attack. The manoeuvres were halted in the New Year as the entire North Korean army was ordered to attend indoctrination lectures.

### IN BRIEF

Drugs fund claim clouds Samper's future

The future of the Colombian President, Ernesto Samper, is in serious doubt after his former campaign manager and defence minister, Fernando Botero, said the President knowingly accepted Cali cocaine cartel contributions to his 1994 campaign. The revelations by Mr Botero, son of the artist whose hronze "fat ladv" sculptures are world renowned, will make it difficult for Mr Samper to remain in power, writes Phil Davison.

Chechen chief threatens 10 years of strife Novogroznensky - Salman Raduyev, the Chechen rebel com-

mander who escaped from Pervomayskoye, said he was ready for a 10-year struggle and vowed Chechnya would never submit to Russia. As Chechen rebels delayed plans to free 50 captives, Mr Raduyev said his soldiers were "ready to sacrifice [their] necks" if federal forces and the Russian government did not take "concrete steps to recognise the independence of Chechnya" Reuter



Amira Yassein, and Mohammad Yassein, both aged eight, at their engagement ceremony in Aqaba, Jordan

# Blowing in the wind ain't such fun on Highway 61

"When you're lost in the rain in Juarez and it's Eastertime, too ..." We were ptaying the Dylan song and the entire *Highway 61* album, as we set out from Chihuahua up Mexico's Highway 45 to Ciudad Juarez and the US border. It's a cassette I always carry with me.

We never got lost in the rain but by the time we were halfway there, we wished we had. It was a fine morning in Chihuahua, 200 miles south of the border cities of Juarez and El Paso, Texas - the perfect day for a drive, even if our wheels were only a small white Chevy, the US equivalent of a Vauxhall Nova.

By the time we stopped for coffee and petrol, a mean wind had whipped up and tumble-weed had piled up against the car. Most tumbleweed I'd seen was in the Peanuts cartoons. drifting past the Arizona home of Snoopy's brother, Spike. But as we drove north up Highway 45, we ran into the kind of turnbleweed we never want to see

again. Or rather, it ran into us. There were hundreds of giant balls of twigs crossing the highway every hundred yards and travelling at about 50 miles an hour. They got bigger and bigger until some were 10ft high, and not "weed" but

### UAREZ DAYS

the car with each hit.

Then came the sandstorm. Within minutes we were down to crawling pace, our emergency lights flashing, peering but bareseeing beyond the bonnet. When we saw flashing lights, we stopped and discovered others had collided off the road.

I'd been through sandstorms during the Gulf war, but there's a difference between being in a sturdy tent with American Marines and armoured vehicles

bunches of hard scrub rocking outside, and being stranded in a small saloon car with sand pil-

ing up against your door.
We were edgy but I couldn't stop thinking of the song the British "Desert Rats" sang in the Saudi desert, waiting for the Gulf war. To the tune of Louis Armstrong's "Wonderful World", they'd croon: "I see skies of blue. And sand and sand. And sand and sand. And sand and sand. And I think to myself, wot a tot of sand." This time, there was no sky of blue. Only sand.

voy until the storm subsided and we got to Juarez, where Francisco "Pancho" Villa launched the Mexican revolution.

There we saw giant advertising hoardings down, windows smashed and streets turned into sand dunes. Power was off, roofs had been torn from huildings and at teast five people died. Most people had stayed home, and were surprised we'd been out on Highway 45.

go. If Dylan's song put Juarez on the map, Marty Robbins's ballad "El Paso" ("Out in the

A huge lorry began crawling west Texas town of El Paso") did forward. We followed in a conthe same for the town on the northern banks of the Rio Grande. "Night-time would find me in Rosa's Cantina, Marty sang. So there we went. Marty was born in Juarez and

was inspired to write the cowboy song after a visit to Rosa's a few hundred yards north of the border, in a dimly lit street, now overshadowed by a power station. The back door through which Marty's cowboy fled has been removed. It seems too There was only one place to many disappointed tourists were urinating in the back yard.

China detains orphanage protester Peking — Xu Xinyuan, a former delegate to the Shanghai Municipal People's Congress, has been held in investigative detention since-November, Human Rights Watch said, writes Teresa Poole. In 1991 and 1992, Mr Xu was one of 16 delegates who urged

an inquiry into alleged abuses at the Shanghai orphanage. Nothing sacred for German 'angels'

Munich - Two nurses spent the past year visiting churches across pointed tourists southern Germany stealing crucifixes, cherubs, paintings and other in the back yard.

Phil Davison

Southern Germany stealing crucifixes, cherubs, paintings and other objects worth 300,000 marks (£134,000), police said. Bavarian art theft investigators caught the two 53-year-old women in the act of stealing a manger from a church in Neresheim. AP

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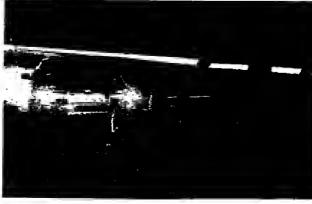
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# Rudolph Wanderone

Disdained by the top tournament players but loved with a wink by nearly everyone else, Rudolph Wanderone, known for much of his life as "Minnesota Fats", was America's billiard character of the century.

He was fat, at 300 pounds, but he wasn't from Minnesota. In like fashion, much of his life was lived in half-truth. So, when Wanderone died last week of heart failure, he left many fans and not a few journalists wondering whether he was really the vivid "Minnesota Fats" character of Walter Tevis's atmospheric novel The Hustler, portrayed on the screen by Jackie Gleason in the 1961

He wasn't, but in a stroke of marketing genius, when the motion picture was released he immediately proclaimed himself to be that fictional player. He possessed just enough skill, the correct girth and more than ample swagger to convince audiences that he was the genuine article. So persuasive was his story that Tevis was forced to add a note denying it in later editions of The Hustler.

Born, by the most reliable accounts, in 1913 to a Swiss family in the Washington Heights section of New York City, Wanderone (nicknamed "Roodle" as a child and later "New York Fats") was exposed to pocket and three-cushion billiards at the age of four and claimed to have started playing for money

two years later. His was not the polite world of English billiards and snooker, but the basement society of fast nineball games and proposition bets. He avoided employment his entire life, preferring the anxious exis-tence of the "road player", an itinerant cueman whose lone objective is the separation of op-ponents from their life savings. This life suited his first wife, Evaline, to whom he was married for nearly 44 years. When aged 70 Wanderone finally took a job promoting pool tables, she promptly won a divorce.

celling at the money games of One-Pocket and Bank Pool, but his surpassing talent was in "making a game", figuring just how much of a handicap he had to give his victim to keep the cash flowing. Wanderone long eschewed tournaments, since he couldn't see the point in playing for three weeks for a chance at \$2,000 when he could win more by hustling in a single night. His lack of refereed public victories hinders any genuine critical appraisal of his prowess with a cue, but in his prime, in 1948-55, he was among the

He was a good shooter, ex-

best in private money games. In the 1960s, he hosted a billiard television programme in Chicago and later played a televised series of challenge matches against Willie Mosconi, who since 1941 had been regarded as the best pool player in the world. Mosconi had the better of these contests, but January 1996.

Wanderone attracted a large following with his exaggerated tales of hustling (he once estimated in mock seriousness that his lifetime winnings had totalled \$100m) and was credited with keeping American billiards thriving for almost two decades at a time when it might otherwise have died out. In 1984, in a gesture of ap-preciation, the Billiard Congress

of America inducted him into its coveted Hall of Fame, an honour so rare it has been bestowed on barely 30 individuals since 1966. Yet even this prize rankled, since he was honoured in the "Meritorious Service" category rather than the exalted wing reserved for "Greatest Players". After his divorce in 1985, Fats took up residence, rent-free, in a Nashville hotel, where he held court each day at a pool table especially in-stalled for his use. Ever seen in the company of attractive young women, he married Theresa Bell, 50 years his junior,

Wanderone lived to see pool's second modern renaissance, spurred by the 1986 film The Color of Money, a sequel to the original Hustler, and knew that he had a substantial hand in bringing it about.

several years ago.

Mike Shamos

Rudolph Walter Wanderone, billiards player: born New York 19 January 1913; twice married; died Nashville, Tennessee 18



Minnesota Fats': Wanderone shooting pool in 1986

Photograph: Range / Bettmann / UPI

### Ellis Hillman

Ellis Hillman was in his own words "a ubiquitous rather than wandering Jew. He was a scnior lecturer in environmental studies at the North East London Polytechnic as he gathered up a portmanteau of local government appointments which Yet there was a determinacaused more selective spirits to raise a cynical eyehrow or two. This lust for the burdens of

office and his general demeanour hid a tough and calculating personality. He greeted everyone with "shalom" as if they were on the set of Fiddler on the Roof, but he was a staunch supporter of the state of Israel. This sometimes caused him to be paranoid about the 1970-80 generation of the Left in Labour London, whom he saw as anti-Zionist.

Hillman became a member of 1958 and remained in County Hall as a leading Greater London Council member until

With Tom Finney and the in-

comparable Stan Matthews be-

striding English football so

majestically in the immediate

post-war years, international

prospects for wing men of less

rarefied talents were limited. All

credit, then, to Bobby Langton

for collecting 11 caps and do-

ing enough to suggest that he

The forthright Lancastrian,

who was always ready to stand

up for his employment rights

during an era when clubs be-

might have won many more.

gifts but the first XI was not open to him. There were dark rumours that he had flirted with the Trotskyite cell of the ineffable Gerry Healey, and some said he had known Ken Livingstone before most of us.

tion and durability in him and he seemed to be on every committee and board of college and school governors in his constituency. He flowered in the Labour

GLC administration of 1973-77. We made him the chairman of our arts and recreation committee. This handsomely funded body had grown out of the LCC's parks department into a cornucopia of the arts. Ellis was in money terms London's leading impresario. The South Bank he saw as his immediate fiefthe London County Council in dom. The GLC stood behind former chairman of the Arts 1981. The old rigid regime at the Council, greatly approved of Hillman, although marriage mayoral Daimler was irre-LCC recognised his various Hillman's role. Indeed Hill- made him more precise about proachable and his civic conduct Thanet sand and 329 feet of

erful outside-left with a rasping shot. In his early days, he rel-

ished cutting in from the flank

to create havoc with his direct

running, though many main-

tained he was more effective

in later years, when wily tacti-

cal acumen compensated for

Langton turned profession-

al with Blackburn Rovers, hav-

ing been signed for £50 from the

non-League Burscough Victoria as a teenager in 1937. With-

in a year he was in the senior



Hillman: genuinely eccentric

man seemed to attend every function from the Clapham Horse Show to an evening of chamber music in the Ranger's House, Blackheath.

Alas, the inflation crisis and

**Bobby Langton** 

Rovers won the second division

title in 1938-9. Then came the

war, much of which he spent as

an infantryman in India, though

some of it he was a guest with

Glentoran, helping them to reach the Irish Cup Final.

With Finney preferred fleetingly to Matthews on the

right flank, England gave Lang-

ton his first cap in their open-

ing peacetime international,

against Northern Ireland at

Belfast in 1946, and he scored

in a 7-2 victory. He retained his

place for several matches, there-

after playing intermittently un-

his religious duties. He disappeared quickly before twilight on Fridays. However, his public appointments continued to grow and sometimes they seemed very unlikely: he was even a member of the Sports Council. He remained a member of the GLC Labour oppo-sition from 1977 to 1981 and continued to serve in many ILEA positions. The new Left wrote him off in 1981.

Yet in 1986 he got himself

elected as councillor in the London Borough of Barnet, one of whose MPs was Margaret Thatcher, At the last local elections it fell to a Lib-Lab alliance and in 1994-95 Ellis became its first ever Labour mayor. The Tory stronghold held its hreath. His first act was to remove all ontward and visible signs of dom. The GLC stood behind the IMF fiasco of 1975 caused Thatcher from the Mayor's Parthe arts lobby and pushed it for us drastically to cut GLC ex- lour. An old friend offered him graph begins: "Sink a borehole ward. Arnold Goodman, the penditure, unnecessarily as it a hust of Lenin as an alterna- at Golders Green and it will pass proved. This did not daunt tive. His demeanour in the through 259 feet of clay, 49 feet Hillman, although marriage mayoral Daimler was irre-

til winning his last honour in

when they were relegated in 1948 and joined Preston North End in a £16,000 deal. Langton

scored a goal after only seven

seconds of an early game for his

new employers, but did not settle at Deepdale, Bolton Wan-

derers paying a club record £20,000 for his services in 1949.

He served the Trotters well,

picking up an FA Cup losers'

medal against Blackpool in the famous "Matthews final" of

By then he had changed

1950.

quickly won approval in this leafy suburb of north London. chalk, layers of flint and two layers of fossils. There was beneath this

There is a wonderful New shamhling and enduring man a York Jewish anarchistic chargenuine eccentricity. He supacter created by the writer Leo ported the Flat Earth Society. Rosten, one Hymie Caplan. which promotes the idea that Hymie is a zealous adult student the Earth is flat; founded and wrestling with English in elected himself President of evening class. Often the consethe Lewis Carroll Society in quences are wild, funny and in-1969, consorting with others furiating, but the redoubtable who could have come out of Hymie's refusal to accept defeat often came to my mind when Wonderland itself; and had a continuing obsession about sub-Ellis Hillman hoved into sight. terranean London, serving as Illtyd Harrington Chairman of the London Subterranean Survey Association

Ellis Simon Hillman, local politician: born 17 November 1928; GLC Councillor 1964-81; Principal Lecturer in Environmental Studies, University of East London (North East London Polytechnic/Polytechnic of East London) 1972-96; Vice-Chairman, ILEA 1980-81; Councillor (Labour), Colindale 1986-96: Mayor London Borough of Barnet 1994-95; married (one son); died London 21 January 1996.



Robert Langton, footballer: born Burscough, Lancashire 8 September 1918; died Burscough 13 January 1996.

# The Very Rev Harold Frankham

working life in banking, and his eye for detail and admiration for efficiency was carried into a distinguished ministry in the Church of England.

His gifts developed widely. He was an accomplished musician, a friend and patron of artists and a fine evangelistic preacher. His conversion to personal faith changed the direction of his life and took him, in the early days of the Second World War, to train at the London College of Divinity and then to a formative curacy at Holy Trinity, Brompton. The vicar, Bryan Green, quickly saw Frankham's enthusiasm and gifts, and thus began a lifelong partnership which took them to many parts of the world and especially the United States. on hundreds of evangelistic

When he took his first benefice at St Mary's, Addiscombe, in south London, he struck up a friendship with the principal of his old college, Donald Coggan. It was a creative partnership which resur-faced in the 1950s when Coggan was Bishop of Bradford and then Archbishop of York and Frankham was Rector of Middleton, Manchester. In Middleton he caught the mood of the times, huilt up a large congregation and tested the energy of his curates. Significantly, he also developed an ancient building for modern use, and this eye for beauty, enlarged for economy and worship, was to be a hallmark of his next two

major posts.
In 1961 he moved to his home town of Luton to take charge of a large town-centre parish. Amidst all his travels, his moving and often provocative preaching, and his meticulous training of curates, he emharked on a vast huilding cheme. It was to drag him through consistory courts, hut he achieved a development

built on a churchyard and

adjacent to a medieval building. All these gifts and experience were crowned with 12 creative years at Southwark. His personal friendship with the architects George Pace and Ronald Suns enabled bold plans to take shape for the extension and enlargement of that great cathedral. His vision commanded the respect of people in the City and the money flowed in. Shortly after his retirement, he was able to return to Southwark to see the Queen open the fulfilment of his dream. He had turned a neglected and rather forgotten building into a centre of worship amongst London's other two appropriate beverage. cathedrals.

From successive home hases his energy was felt in many parts of the Church, notably in the foundation of Scargill House in Wharfedale, in the Yorkshire dales. His partnership with Coggan and Pace was again used to turn a country house into a place of breathtaking beauty where the faith was evoked and sustained. His ability to inspire others with his vision also enabled him to January 1996.

Norman MacCaig, poet, died 23 in Paris and Brussels from the January, aged 85. [An obituary end of the Second World War

Kaj Birksted, air force officer, died London, aged 80. Danish fighter ace who fought with the RAF in the Battle of Britain. Took part in 400 raids on Ger-

Harold Frankham began his become a fund-raiser it was this Frankham was also the executive secretary of the Archbishop's Council for Evangelism and, with Cuthbert Bardsley and John Poullon, pressed upon a somewhat deaf church the need to proclaim the gospel to the un-converted. It paved the way for today's greater awareness in the Decade of Evangelism

aC:

There were some struggles in his life. As a young man Harold Frankham had suffered from polio and its effects never entirely left him. The loss of an infant child and of his close friend Dick Marsh in a climbing accident left their scars. His early upbringing had tended to narrow pictism and he wrestled with conscience when the hreadth of his personality and his delight in the good things of life seemed to war against the foundations of his faith. He remained true to a Christian gospel of salvation while discovering to the full the de-lights which creation has to

His years at Southwark hrought him under the liberating influence of Mervyn Stock-



wood, and together they found the honest freedom of children of God. A note discovered after his death included the sentence "An important element is fun in the Christian life", and his ready sense of humour together with an occasionally devastating judgement signalled that the early shackles had been discarded.

Harold Frankham and Mervyn Stockwood both retired to Bath, where Frankham's wife, Margaret, had a care for each of them. Her devotion and constant encouragement were a great stabilising feature of Frankham's ministry. Their hospitality in successive homes was prodigious. Harold and Margaret Frankham were likely to welcome a tramp for breakfast. a curator and a banker for lunch and the churchwardens and Christian teaching which for supper. And on each could take its place proudly occasion they produced the

Michael Turnbull

Harold Edward Frankham, priest: born 16 April 1911; ordained deacon 1941, priest 1942; Vicar of Addiscombe 1946-52; Rector of Middleton, Lancashire 1952-61; Vicar of Luton 1961-70; Provost of Southwark 1970-82 (Emeritus); married 1942 Margaret Annear (one son, two daughters, and one son de-ceased); died Salisbury 17

follows.]

man targets. Worked with Nato Hamlet and Joan of Arc.

until 1980.

Fatma Rushdy, actress, died 23 January, aged 88. Known as "the Sarah Bernhardt of the East", she played lead roles in Egyptian film and theatre, including

### Births, Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

SAMURL: On 19 January, at Univer-sity College Hospital, London, 10 Aison (nee Ingham) and Christopher, a son, Oliver John Loraine, a broth-

DEATHS

KINGSFORD: On 20 January 1996, suddenly, Anthony Lethbridge (Tony) Kingsford, of Bilbrook, Minchead, aged 63 years, Funeral service to take place at Thunson Deane Crematorium on Thesday 30 January at 2.30pm. Pamily flowers only but donations if desired for Dr Barnardo's may be sent c/o Taunton Funeral Service, Windsor Place, Whitehall, Taunton.

PRICHARD: Dr John, late of Mexicon College, Oxford, Trinity College Dublin and St James's Hospital, 22 January, at home, peacefully after a long illness borne with great dignay. Much-loved husband of Bernadene and dear father of Sarah, Ruth and David, Deeply regretted by his moth-er Constance, his loving sister Nersy, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, neph-ws, nieces, students, colleagues and friends. Funeral service at St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, on Wednesday 24 January at 1.30pm, and burial afterwards in Mount Venus

WILLIAMS: Dr Joyce Beverley Williams MBE, noe Jewson, on 22 January, suddenly but peacefully in hospital, aged 85. Widow of Dr Denis Williams, mother of Christopher, Joanna and Hilary. Former long-standing London magistrate. Private cremation. Memorial service to be an-

### Birthdays

lieved that players should be side, becoming top marksman

seen and not heard, was a pow- with 14 strikes in 37 games as

reduced pace.

Miss Nora Beloff, author, 77; Mr Ernest Borgnine, actor, 79; Lt-Gen Sir Anthony Denison-Smith, GOC, 4th Division, 54; Mr Neil Diamond, atti Division, 54; Mr Neil Diamond, singer and songwriter, 55; Mr Bamber Gascoigne, author and quizmaster, 61; Miss Nastassja Kinski, actress, 35; Mr Peter Laister, former company chairman, 67; Dr Desmond Morris, zoologist, 68; Sir Donald Murray, a former Lord Justice of Aparal Sir peal, Supreme Court of Northern Ire-land, 73; Dr Ian Oliver, Chief Constable, Grampian, 56; Miss Jane Somerville, consultant physician, 63; The Most Rev John Aloysius Ward, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cardiff, 67: Air Commodere Sir Cardiff, 67; Air Commodore Sir Archie Winskill, former captain of the Queen's Flight, 79.

### Anniversaries

Births: Hadrian, Roman emperor, 76: 1638: Sir John Vanbrugh, playwright, baptised 1664: William Congreve, playwright, 1670; Farinelli (Carlo Broschi), castrato singer, 1705; Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais, playwright, 1732; Ernst Theodor Amadeus Hoffmann, author and composer, 1776; Edith Newbold (Jones) Wharton, novelist. 1862; Ann Todd, actress, 1909. Deaths: Caligula, Roman emperor, assassinated 41; Lord Randolph Churchill (Randolph Henry Spencer Churchill), politician, 1895; Amedeo Modigliani, painter and sculptor, 1920; Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, statesman, 1965; George Cukor, film director, 1983. On this day: Henry III. King of England, married Eleanor of Provence, 1236: Foundation for Science Cape Horn was rounded by Willem Corneliszoon Schouten, 1616; gold was first discovered by James Mar-

shall at Sutter's sawmill in Califor-

nia, 1848; the first train passed over the Forth Bridge, 1890; the first Conscription Bill was passed by the House of Commons, 1916; the Central Statistical Office was founded, 1941; Mae West made her London stage debut in her own play, Diamond Lil, 1948; the 270,000-ton Olympic Bravery tanker ran aground off France, 1976. Today is the Feast Day of St Babylas of Antioch, St Felician of Foligno, St Francis of Sales and St Macedonius the Barley-eater.

Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Beyond Europe (iv): the Holy Land m art", 1pm.

Victoria and Albert Museum; Ronald Parkinson, "Constable", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: David Brittain, "Appearances", 1pm. British Museum: Lesley Fitton. "Journey to the Labyrinth: the dis-covery of Minoen Crete", 1.15pm.

Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, London EC1: Professor Simon Lee, "From the Merchant of Venice to Barings: 400 years of regulating the futures market", 5.30pm. Stade Centre for the History and Theory of Art, London WCI: Rudi Visker, "Dispossessed; how to remain silent after Levinas", 6pm.

Frank Cvitanovich

A celebration of the life and career of Frank Cvitanovich, the television and film director, will be held at St James's, Piccadilly, London W1, at 11am on Tuesday 20 February 1996.

and Technology Lord Butterworth was in the chair at

a lecture and dinner discussion held

yesterday evening at the Royal So-ciety, London SW1. Mr Ian Taylor MP, Minister for Science and Technology, attended Sir Giles Shaw MP, Professor Peter S. Hannard or Peter S. Harper and Dr Helen Watt spoke on "Human Genetics, Ethics, Society and Legis-

Inner Temple

The following have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temples Mr Justice Langley, Judge Christopher Flich-eng Mr Nigel Pascoe QC, Mr Oliver Sells QC, Miss Joanna Korner QC, Mr Kenneth Aylett; Mr Andrew Tidbury.

Wills

Sir Kingsley William Amis, of Lon-don NWI, the novelist and poet, left estate valued at £543,685 net. Mr Gervase Frank Ashworth Jackson-Stops, of Horton, Northamp-tonshire, Architectural Adviser to the National Trust 1975-95, left estate val-

Mr Nigel Authory Timmis, of Wolverhampton, West Midlands, left estate valued at £1,000,885 net. He Mrs Angels Mary Hobbins, of Steb-bing, Essex, left estate valued at £10,537,919 met.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Quem, Honoray Air Commodore, value RAF Marbam, Norfolk The Princes Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, Worvestenhire and Shartwoof Foresten Regiment, which the 1st Bantalion prior to de-ployment to Bosob, at Locknow Barracks, Tai-worth, Hampshiro, Princess Margaret, Patron, vists London Lighthoure, London Wil, for the lumpuration of its 10th Anniversary Year.

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavalry Mounted Regim thouse the Queen's Life Grant at Serve Gase 11 ang. In Bastallon Irish Church mounts. Queen's Grant, at Buckingham Palace, 11.20, hand provided by the Coldstream Guards.

### Asylum seekers can only make one claim Regins y Secretary of State for

the Home Department, ex parte Ademola Onibiyo: Queen's Bench Division (Mr Justice Latham); 19 January 1996

from 1968. He organised an ear-

ly day conference on rewiring

Britain and the coming of the

Trench a fascinatingly illustrated book, London Under London

1953, only for a dispute to re-

sult in his return to Blackburn

years before a brief spell in Ul-

ster with Ards. There followed

service to a succession of non-

League clubs, culminating with

to-earth realism, spiced with a

Ivan Ponting

certain flair.

He wrote with Richard

cable in the late Sixties.

Under the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993, an asylum seeker, while remaining in Britain, is permitted only one application for asylum to which any right of appeal attaches. Any material submitted by the asylum seeker after the dismissal of an appeal is submit-ted in support of the one claim and could not constitute a fresh claim with a fresh right of appeal. Such material would be considered by the Home Secretary in the exercise of discretion.

Mr Justice Latham dismissed the applicant's appli-cation for judicial review of the Home Secretary's refusal to revoke a deportation order against the applicant. The applicant, a Nigerian na-

tional who had overstayed his limited leave to remain in this country, applied for political asylum when served with a deportation order. The Home Secretary rejected the application and the applicant's ap-peal was dismissed by a special adjudicator in September 1995. In November 1995 his solicitors applicant; Neil Garland (Treasury

LAW REPORT

24 January 1996

scribed as "a fresh application for political asylum". The Home Secretary decided that the application was not a fresh claim, and that it did not disclose any material which justified reversing his earlier decision.

The applicant applied for judicial review of the Home Secretary's decision asking that the Home Secretary should consider the fresh application or refer the matter to the immigration appellate anthorities to consider the fresh matters. The Home Secretary argued that the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993 permitted only one application for asylum to which any rights of appeal could attach in respect of any single visit to this country, and that the decision that the November application was merely amplification of the original application was not irrational and was not fresh administrative action to which a right of appeal

attached. Nicholas Blake QC and Duran Seddon (Fisher Meredith) for the submitted further documen- Solicitor) for the Home Secretary.

tation to support what was de- Mr Justice Latham said that the Court of Appeal in R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, ex-parte the Home Secretary [1990] 1 WLR 1126 had rejected the argument there could only be one appeal on an asylum claim in relation to rights of appeal under the Immigration Act 1971. The applicant argued that the same reasoning should apply under the 1993 Act.

An application for leave to enter might be made on different grounds. The effect of the 1993 Act had been to provide a separate statutory scheme for applications based on a claim for asylum. The statutory scheme envisaged a claim for asylum which became a historical fact entitling the asylum seeker to exercise a right of appeal under section 8 against any relevant administrative decision or action.

Any further material submitted or applications made were submitted and made in support of the original claim, whether they were made before or after the Home Secretary had made his decision on the claim or before or after any appeal under section 8. If the ap-

material or application would be considered by the Home Secretary in the exercise of his discretion to reconsider his decision, and, if he considered it appropriate, to refer any matter arising out of those materials or applications to an adjudicator.

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That construction provided a coherent scheme consistent with the statutory background. It avoided the necessity to consider a question which was fraught with difficulty, namely whether any subsequent ap-plication for asylum could properly be described as a "fresh claim". It had the merit of making sense of the pro-viso to section 8(3), which was necessary because each decision in the subsection was a separate decision which would otherwise carry separate rights of appeal.

If, after dismissal of an appeal, the Secretary of State adhered to his original decision on asylum and as to the appropriate administrative decision or action, whether or not he had considered any further representations, he did no more than give effect to that original decision or action. The application was dismissed.

Ying Hui Tan, Barrister

abandon plan of a direct path to Jupiter instead following a complex route of loops around Venus and Earth to propel Galileo to its goal, using momentum generated by gravitational pull. This carcinous 2.3-billion rate a sure of the carc

> STAGE 3: THE DESCENT July 1995: Atmospheric probe with a carbon/nylon cone-shaped heatsheld learnched towards Jupiter from orbiting main craft, it has 28kg of scientific instrumentation to measure Jovian atmosphere, including temperature, pressure, chamical composition and presence of lightning. November 1995: Main craft's on-board tapa recorder malfunctions, suggesting no data from probe may be

7 December 1995: Probe exters Jupitar's atmosphere at 106,000mph and slows to 250mph in four misures. It transmits information via radio waves to the secondary antenna of main craft. Information relayed for 57 information temperature and pressure destroys probe. Meanwhile the main craft's engines fire to stow it into other round. the main craft's engines fire to slow it into orbit eround Jupiter. The tape recorder functions: signels tront probe recorded and fransmitted to Bartin.

December 1995-January 1996: Public sector shut-down in US prevents analysis of data. After outlay of \$1.6bn to obtain them, Nasa is forced to store the results to be read later. 22 January 1996: Nese announces analysis of data.

It took six years, but the Galileo probe to Jupiter will make us rethink how the solar system was created, reports Tom Wilkie

# Journey to the beginning of time

Percival Lowell (1855-1916) takes up the Schiparelli theory, and builds the Lowell Observatory at Flegstaff, Arizona, to study Mars. Although his ideas meet with great opposition by the time of his death, he is still the conference of his death, he

With the development of photography, pictures taken after Lowell's death fail to depict the canals. The advent of space travel also

puts paid to many ideas formed by passive observation from Earth, and in the Mariner

flights of the Sixties, Mariner 9 conclusively

1948 The astronomers Fied Hoyle, Hermann Bondi and Tommy Gold, reconciling observations on the evolution of the universe

with theories of relativity, advance the steady

state theory. This proposes that the universe has existed for ever, and that new material is

constantly being created as it expands.

Amo Penzias and Robert Wilson (right)

1965 The invention of a specially sensitive

amplifier for Bell Telephone Laboratories allows

aken seriously in some quarters.

proves he was wrong.

fter a voyage of 2.3 hillion a probe into Jupiter is the clos- concentrations. In addition, tory and now professor of exper-Amiles, lasting six years and costing about \$1.6hn, the Galileo space mission to Jupiter has ushered in a new age of

STAGE 2; THE JOURNEY

astronomy.
The results from Jupiter, just released by Nasa, represent "a major contribution to our understanding of the develop-ment of the solar system," according to Dr Paul Murdin, head of astronomy for the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council. Astronomers are no longer passive, earthbound observers of the planets and stars - the technology of spaceflight means they can now reach out and touch parts

of the nearby universe. Galileo's observations are not of arcane interest. Jupiter and the other "gas giant" planets such as Saturn and Uranus are important because they are so far from the Sun that gases in its atmosphere have not in the hearts of stars and then boiled off and so their composition should reflect the primordial stuff from which the solar system was made. They also have strong gravity, which with a simple interpretation of holds the gas more tightly. In this theory. It found that contrast, the inner rocky planets such as the Earth and Mars than Nasa scientists had anticare much more differentiated. So in theory, at least, sending

est we can get to sending it into neon, carbon and sulphur were the very earliest moments in the less abundant than predicted.

was quite different from the planet scientists had expected to find based on observations from telescopes on Earth and passing spacecraft such as the Voyager missions to Jupiter and the outer planets. The finding suggest that either Jupiter has developed more than we had expected and that it isn't a good guide to the way our planets were formed or that we must rethink the very origins of our solar system.

Hydrogen and helium are the most abundant elements in the universe, but astronomers believed the disc of dust and gas from which our solar system evolved must also have contained carbon and sulphur and other heavier elements forged ejected across the galaxy in supernova explosions. We are, quite literally, stardust. But Galileo's findings do not accord Jupiter's atmosphere is drier ipated and it contained about half of the expected helium

life of the solar system.

Galileo found that Jupiter From Ptolemy to the Jupiter probe: the advance of astronomy

In addition, there are fewer lightning storms on Jupiter than there are on Earth, the probe discovered. This is consistent with the lack of water vapour, according to Professor Alec Boksenberg, former director of

2nd century AD Ptolemy's Aimagest was the

theory proposed the Earth as the centre of the universe, around which all other planets, stars

and the Sun revolved. He only had his eyes, Euclidean geometry and maths to work with.

1610 Invention of the telescope allowed

bserve Jupiter's moons and prove the

heliocentric (Sun-centred), theory of the

1877 As telescope technology

Improves, further observations are possible, and Giovanni

Schiparelli (1835-1910, right).

thinks he sees linear markings

irrigation canals,

supposedly dug by

details observations of Mars. He

magnification 30 times greater than human eyesight. Galileo (1564-1642) is thus able to

definitive treatise on astronomy until Copernicus in the 15th century. Ptolemy's

imental astronomy at Camhridge University. Lightning occurs when electric charges have been transported across the atmosphere. If there are not enough water droplets to act as the carriers of charge, lightning

will be that much rarer.

Jupiter is a fearful place.

sent back by the little probe through Jupiter's thick atmoswhich the Galileo mother ship despatched on a suicide mission into the planet's atmosphere.

According to Dr Richard Young, the project scientist in charge of the mission at the Nasa-Ames research centre: The probe detected extremely

phere. The origin of Jupiter's winds appears to be an internal heat source which radiates energy up into the atmosphere

from the planet's deep interior." This is a stark difference from

Earth, whose weather is driven by heat from the Sun warming the atmosphere. Jupiter is so far Boksenberg former director of the Royal Greenwich Observa
Jupiter is a fearful place, strong winds and very intense the atmosphere. Jupiter is so far from the Sun that it gets little

or black holes. The photos may challenge

earlier astronomica

the evolution

formation of

and the

accidentally to discover cosmic microwa background radiation: essentially an echo of the "Big Bang", which began the universe 15 billion yeers ago. The Big Bang theory refutes the steady state theory that the universe has 1996 The Hubble Space Telescope revolutionises our understanding of the universe. The photos sent back by th telescope show clusters of stars that form a the US government," one scientist remarked. nucleus around areas of gravitational instability,

for its weather is its gravitational energy and the heat from radioactive decay of elements deep within the planet.

The probe measured wind speeds of up to 330mph. The characteristic swirling patterns visible on Jupiter's surface appear to come. Dr Young said, from "a jet stream-like mechanism rather than swirling burricane or tornado-like storms."

But European astronomers are less convinced that Galileo's findings mark a new era in our understanding of the universe. They point out that Nasa, increasingly hard pressed to defend its budgets, has an interest in promoting the significance of the findings. "They would have to be startling discoveries for Nasa to get its money from

They also questioned whether the apparent anomalies in the composition of the planet's atmosphere would really require rethinking theories of how the solar system formed. One planetary scientist pointed out that water is abundant on Earth but absent from the Moon. All planets have evolved since the formation of the solar system how the atmosphere is, not just

solar heat, so the driving force stances and some gases might have been lost while others may have settled more deeply in the atmosphere of the gas giants. In other words, the probe may tell us a lot more about Jupiter's evolution but not that much about the solar system.

But there is no doubt that the probe marks a new departure in astronomical observation. Professor Boksenberg explained: For the first time one's getting real information rather than conjecture about Jupiter."

His analysis was endorsed by Dr Murdin: "For millenia astronomers have had to put up with being passive observers. They had to sit on Earth and detect radiation by building hig-ger and bigger telescopes.

"What's starting to emerge now is going and getting bits of the nearby universe," Dr Murdin said, "We've been to the Moon and brought some bits back to Earth. Landers have been to Mars and brought stuff back into the vehicle for analysis. For the future, the European Space Agency is looking at the Rosetta mission, landing on a comet and digging around on it. I would view Galileo in that developing story. We now have real data on

a spectrum of the cloud toos."



### Mme M, spare the hearse taking his coffin on its last journey from the counthat pooch

their own way As we are coninually fold, they will tolerate any scandals in the private lives of their leaders. But there are Consternation has greeted the news that late president Mitterrand's widow, Danielle,



Baltique et François ...

has farmed out his faithful hlack labrador, Baltique, to one of his former bodyguards and that the poor hitch could spend the rest of her days at a barracks near Versailles. Baltique endeared herself to the French public when, in accor-dance with her master's last wishes, she walked alongside

try church to the cemetery. Danielle is reported as say-

The French are a tolerant lot in ing that she already has a labrador of her own and can't accommodate another when she is in Paris (but everyone knows she has a good-sized bouse, quite big enough for a pack of labradors). She has promised to collect Baltique from the barracks whenever she goes down to the family's country house in the south west. Sacrebleu! Either you have a dog or you don't. You can't just collect one when you leave town. The damage to Mme Mitterrand's image looks irreversible.

### Say it, Tony

Who do we find writing a full-page schooling manifestn in the current issue of the Times Educational Supplement, printed just before the Harriet Harman row broke? None other than Tony Blair.

Here is a suippet: "There is much that is good in our system. But unfortunately it has too often been restricted to an élite few. A return to a system dominated by selection at 11 would make matters worse. We need reform that looks forward rather than back."



**Noddy lost** 

Famous Five turn to fisticuffs watching Enid Blyton's digni-fied daughter, Gillian Baver-stock, fall into the undignified clutches of the Freud PR agency yesterday.

A pained looking Mrs Baverstock was promoting the sale of

It was enough to make the

the copyrights of her mother's works to Trocadero plc, owner of the London Trocadero, and to this end was shuffled unceremoniously in and out of a diminutive Noddy car and tweaked from one journalist to the next. And not even in a private room. She had to give her interviews in the general throughfare, as the public squeezed past her, rushing to un-Blyton like hi-tech delights of the Emaginator, Virtual World and Alien War, while a small Noddy roamed forlornly around the mall in a blue hat and red nose, looking as bewildered as his creator's daughter.

### Hosepipe ban, literally

Giving hirth is now a non-essential activity. And in the summer months it's downright dilettante.

My spies in the maternity

ward at Harrogate General Hnspital tell me a vicinns post-natal row is about to break in the peaceful spa over the belated discovery that it took Ynrkshire Water's summer hosepipe ban in heart and closed its waterbirth One new papa tells me: "My

wife had made it clear throughout her pregnancy that she wanted a waterbirth and had been assured by the hos-pital that it would be possible. But when we telephoned the ward to tell them we were about to set off, we were told that the birthing pool was not being used because of the hasepipe ban - specifically because a hosepipe is used to fill the pool."

The Harrogate General Hospital's head of midwifery services, Lesley Harris, says in response that the pool was closed "as a community-spirited gesture.' Yorkshire Water is flummaxed. "The ban was an hosepipes for washing cars

"A hirthing pool would be excluded from a more general non-essential use ban because it would be regarded as being

and watering private gar-

dens," said a spokesman

yesterday.

part nf a medical process.' Except, it seems, by those



Wanamaker: not betting

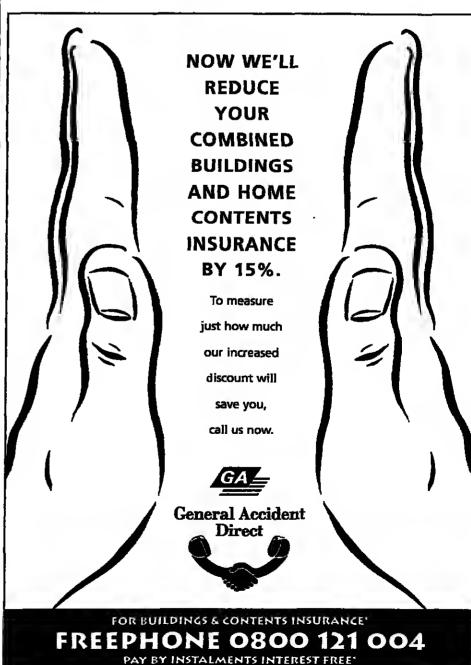
Zoë's odds

I expected to find that the wonderful actress Zoē Wanamaker exuding bonhomie at the Olivier awards nominees' lunch vesterday. Her cup runneth over, having been nominated for an Olivier Award as Best Actress for The Glass Menagerie, and she is also the trustee for her late father Sam's hrainchild, the Globe Theatre, which looks like opening next June, thanks to £12.4m of lottery money.

That may be, she told me, "but I think the National Lottery is the biggest con ever. It's trying to cover up the lack of arts funding. And I never play it." All that Tennessee Williams intensity seems to be going to her head.

**Eagle Eye** 





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Generation Why by Tony Reeve and Steve Way SO, LADS, WHAT PROBABLY LEGAL X DECEMS 2 UROPEAN

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# Why Blair must stand by Harman

Farriet Harman must not resign. Tony Blair should hack her to the hilt. If he fails to do so the old guard of his party will pick up the message all too quickly "Rough me up a hit and I will cave in." That message will be relayed to an anxious electorate and they will ask: if the old guard can force him to retreat on this issue, then what other promises to the aspirant middle classes will be backtrack on? In short, Blair has much to lose on this apparently trifling issue of the future of one II-year-old boy. It is not just a matter of presentation.

There are difficult and troubling issues at stake. The first is parental choice. It should play a central role in secondary education. As a nation we must want par-ents to desire and seek the best for their children. To do that we must allow them to search for the school most suited to each child.

The kind of antagonism unleashed against Harriet Harman's decision casts doubts on Labour's commitment to choice. For all her middle-class primness - she seems at times like a Labour version of Virginia Bottomley - she nevertheless has an unnerving habit of slipping out of the political world and hehaving like an ordinary person. And up and down the country parents of all classes are doing exactly what she is doing. Labour would be woefully misguided to side against

On the contrary, Labour should be advocating greater diversity within the state sector, with more specialisation within schools allowing them to focus on music, the arts, science or sport. And there should be forms of streaming and setting within comprehensives.

Yet if there is to be choice, then schools that acquire a good reputation will be oversubscribed. The long-term solution to that is to allow good schools – possibly through involving private finance – to grow to accommodate this demand, and to work on improving the quality of all schools, especially the worst. With proper funding and good management even sink schools can be turned around. But in the short term where demand outstrips supply, there must be rationing - and that raises the question of selection.

The I1-plus examination had a disastrous impact on Britain. It condemned millions of children to a second-class education, second-class life chances and second-class jobs. There must be no return to such a divisive system. The aim of British education - as it is in Germany and Japan - should be to raise the standards of all our children's education, not just the top 5 per cent.

That means entry selection for schools sbould be used as a tool to deal with oversubscription. There should be alternatives to selection on academic grounds and examination results: random selection, interviews, work projects completed at junior school, selection based on geography. None of these is satisfac-

tory, as any parent will testify.
The political point is clear, though. The left has held back from attacking Mr Blair directly; a full frontal assault would not succeed and would be too damaging. So it is attacking Harriet Harman as a proxy for the Labour leader himself.

If he loses his nerve and backs down the middle-class voters he has been courting so assiduously will feel badly let down and may never fully trust him again.



John Major is being offered a way to hreak nearly a year's political deadlock in Northern Ireland. He has a plan on his desk that should persuade the Government to set aside its unrealistic demand that the IRA should give up its weapons before constitutional talks can begin. It Fein to make a genuine and irrevocable commitment to ensuring that the days of

violence are over for ever. The plan drawn up by the former US senator, George Mitchell, and his international commission is published today.

The Prime Minister should seize upon it. Senator Mitchell has not gone soft on Sinn Fein. His plan requires Gerry Adams to go further than ever before in accepting the democratic process in Northern Ireland. If Sinn Fein were to join talks, the party would have to promise to be bound by any democratically agreed settlement,

even if it opposed aspects of the deal. This would be a considerable concession for the republicans, for it would require them implicitly to acknowledge that their historic goal of a united Ireland would have to he sacrificed. And Mr Mitchell has not set aside altogether the amhition to disarm the paramilitaries. He proposes it should be staged. Decommissioning of arms would be expected to take place in parallel with all-party talks, as a way of huilding confidence.

Mr Mitchell is also expected to make concessions to the Unionist side, favouring their suggestion that an elected assemhly should be convened to discuss constitutional reform. Nationalists on both sides of the Irish border will not like this

Nevertheless, John Major will have to swallow some of his pride, if he is to accept the Mitchell report. Not to accept it would risk derailing the peace process completely. He will have to set aside the mand that the IRA must give in at least some weapons before all-party talks can begin.

This was always an ill-judged demand. In Ireland there is no precedent of rebels handing in guns before talks. The Government's own security forces have made plain their view that the IRA would never agree to the demand. It is almost impossible to find a single conflict around the world where surrender of weapons preceded negotiations.

Yet ministers have stuck doggedly to this precondition for nearly a year. Their insistence led to an Anglo-Irish summit being cancelled in the autumn and nearly blighted President Clinton's visit in

could be fudged, provided an assembly

Fein and others are prepared to make similarly difficult concessions. Today, Mr Major should give the Mitchell plan his backing. He would call Sinn Fein's bluff: it would then he up to Gerry Adams to prove that he really believes in peace and



### - LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

### Chablis socialists who are forced to choose between head and heart

From Mr Paddy Heazell

Sir: Your correspondent Andrea Coleman (letter, 23 January) reacts too sharply. Harriet Harman is far from being the first socialist parent to have faced having to choose between being ruled by head or heart. As head of The Hall, an inde-

pendent (fee-paying) school in the unfashionable end of Hampstead, in London, I regularly educated the sons and grandson of Labour (and Liberal) politicians. They all, presumably, took the view that whatever the political and philosophical arguments, their sons were too precious to be sac-rificed on any altars of correctness.

Branded on one occasion as the "Chablis socialists", their ranks included such past great luminaries of the Labour Party as Professors Laski and GDH Cole. Mrs Coleman really has no cause

to feel so betrayed Surely, responsible parents must aim to provide the very best for their children, as they see it and as circumstances dictate. A hetter educated nation may happen, one day, but even if Joseph Dromey really could be instrumental in creating it, should his parents be required to risk waiting that long? Yours faithfully,

PADDY HEAZELL Saxmundham, Suffolk 23 January

From Mr William Higgins Sir: You may be right to say (leading article, 23 January) that

Jammed up by

company cars

renege on their publicly exsed views to avoid disadvantaging their children. But please don't expect those who passed the II-plus in the late Sixties only to find that the grammar schools they succeeded in getting into were subsequently shambolically converted into comprehensives to feel warm and forgiving about

Unlike Mr Blair and Ms Har-man (Fettes College and St Paul's, respectively), a grammar school was our best hope; and Harold Wilson's Labour govern-ment took that back from us.

Notwithstanding your approval, voters will react negatively to any politician who gives at least tacit support to a principle, but who contravenes it the moment its observance becomes inconvenient. Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM HIGGINS Caterham, Surrey 22 January

From Mr Hugh Sheppard Sir: Harriet Harman has nothing lo apologise to her own party for, let alone the Conservatives. She is fully entitled to seek the best for her son under a system for which her party has no responsibility. That does not mean she North Yorkshire agrees with it, nor that she wants 22 January something for herself she would deny to others.

In the same way, I wish that instead of a cut in income tax, the

mean I am going to offer to pay extra tax - just that I would be prepared to when the government changes. Yours faithfully, HUGH SHEPPARD Odiham, Hampshire 22 January

From Mr D. Richards Sir. The crucial argument that you fail to consider in your leading article ("Harman gets her pri-orities right", 22 January) is why Harriet Harman chose a Roman Catholic comprehensive for Harry, her first child. Choice on religious grounds is generally

religions grounds is generally accepted and, thankfully and honourably, virtually all church schools, both Anglican and Roman Catholic, have chosen to be comprehensive.

What does her choice for her second child say about church schools in general and London Oratory in particular? Is Harry more in need of a Catholic ethos than Joe? If it was crucial for one, 22 January why not the other? Yours sincerely,

D. RICHARDS Headteacher St Aidan's Church of England High School Harrogate

From Mr John Crawley Sir: I found your editorial on Harriet Harman pretty hard to Government would spend more swallow. Your argument that

best for their own child" is typical of the worst middle-class consumerist view of education. What about the society that her son is growing up in, perpetuated hy this kind of schooling? On the logic of your argument, Ms Har-man is a hypocrite for not send-ing her children to Eton because, if it is solely about getting ahead in the rat race and "purchasing" future access to a university. then, statistically, that's an even better bet for her child.

Grammar schools such as St Olave's are all about concern for the "bright" 10 per cent and let the rest go hang. The problem with our society is that there are many forms of intelligence we should value and nourish, but we choose to define and value just one, academic form, and heap the resources on that already privileged minority. Yours etc.

JOHN CRAWLEY Lichfield, Staffordshire

From Mr Tom Morton Sir: The opprohrium with which Harriet Harman has met following her decision to send ber son to a grammar school is deeply regrettable but not entirely

As a Labour-supporting, for-mer grammar school boy, I fully endorse Ms Harman's actions. Grammar schools enshrine the finest virtues of British social democracy, offering educational 22 January

From Mrs Clare Stevens

politician-parents are entitled to on social objectives. That doesn't "each parent has a duty to do the opportunities to children on purely academic merit: it is astonishing that Labour does not defend them as such - for they have furnished the Labour Party with generations of voters, members and, indeed,

Parliamentarians. Until the party takes the class struggle out of the classroom, Ms Harman and ambitious parents nationwide will remain stuck uneasily between Tory education cuts and snide socialist

Yours faithfully. TOM MORTON London, WI2

From Ms Isobel Shepherdson Sir. It seems that Harrict Harman's decision about the school her son is to attend might well damage the new Labour Party's election prospects and who knows what else beside?

The saddest thing of all is that it may well be a bad decision for her son. There is plenty of evidence that hright pupils do as well in comprehensive schools as they do in selective schools. They gain so much, in addition, in social competences, that selective schools begin to look somewhat deprived and limited environments for hright, independentminded boys, or girls, to spend formative years. Yours faithfully,

ISOBEL SHEPHERDSON York



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### It has been difficult to understand the From Mr Nicholas Faith Government's determination. Even the Ulster Unionists have wavered on the Sir: I find the newfangled concern expressed by all our political par-ties to find a transport policy not overly biased towards the motor-

issue, indicating that the arms question was elected for constitutional talks. Now there is a way out, providing Sinn

not only discourage the use of cars for commuting (the prime cause of traffic jams in our major cities); car more than slightly hypocritical. Indeed, I will not begin to take them seriously until they adopt a firm policy of removing tax relief Yours sincerely, entirely from company cars - and

it would also provide the Treasury with more than £1bn in additional revenue. Unfortunately, the present government's mania for privatisation means that the money could not be applied to helping our ramshackle urban railway systems, because it would simply end up in the pockets of private shareholders. NICHOLAS FAITH

from the parking spaces enjoyed by senior executives in so many office blocks. Such a policy would

### Keeping the young | Football and cafés | On the road away from crime outside St Paul's

From Mr Roger Statham

Sir. Your report about the link between unemployment and crime ("Lack of jobs ties men to 'cycle' of youth crime", 19 January) has been greeted by knowing nods in the probation service. This Home Office research has replicated the findings of research commissioned by the Association of Chief Officers of Probation and carried out by Lancaster University in 1993. The findings are also echoed in the day-to-day experiences of larly if the shops and restaurants every probation officer in the

The Probation Service is serious about tackling crime, but there is concern about the growing alienation of young men. Unemployment is leaving a vacuum in their lives which is filled with drug taking and crime in so

many cases.

Prevention is clearly better than cure. So why not start with a safety net of modern apprenticeships for all our school leavers?

Yours sincerely, ROGER STATHAM Chief Probation Officer Cleveland Probation Service Middlesbrough. Cleveland 22 January

The writer is Social Policy and Employment spokesman of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation.

### Monkey business

From Mr Johannes Van Dam Sir: To answer Tim Nott's query concerning a name for the @ ("So what do you call the @ thing?", 22 January), some here call the @ "apenstaart", which is can always claim they are exercising Dutch for monkey's tail. Yours truly, JOHANNES VAN DAM

Amsterdam

22 January

a St Paul's Cathedral chorister, I can tell you that my son and a lot of his friends have expressed the desire for an Astroturf football pitch on the site. A mixed development of offices, residential apartments, shops and restaurants would be an ideal solution to the problem of Paternoster Square, particu-

were open at weekends and on summer evenings. There are few experiences more depressing than trying to occupy a small boy hetween the hours of 4.30pm and 7.30pm on a cold, possibly wet Sunday in the City. Yours faithfully, CLARE STEVENS London, SE22

### Paradise found

23 January

From Mr Stephen Howarth Sir: If Norway gives us Hell, as Bernard Sharp points out (letter, 22 January), travel west instead. There is a famous Mystic in Connecticut; Indiana provides Harmony and Arkansas, Hope. Con-cord is to be found in Massachusetts, Eden in Idaho and, in Missouri, Arcadia. But we need not go so far for Heaven: that is a farm in East Sussex, close to the Bluebell Railway. I've passed it many times, but never yet knocked on the door.

### STEPHEN HOWARTH Shelton, Nottinghamshire 22 January

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@ independent.co.uk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

### **since 1215**

From Mr Dominic Reid

Sir: With reference to your arti-Sir: Thank you for reopening the cle "City pageant to revive hisdebate on the future of Patertoric Thames" (18 January), I noster Square. As the parent of should perhaps point out that it

is the River procession that dates back to 1422; the Lord Mayor had already been travelling to Westminster annually since 1215. By the time the first River procession took place in 1422, the Lord Mayor's Show was already 207 years old. Yours faithfully, DOMINIC REID Pageantmaster Lord Mayor's Show

22 January

### Jury avoidance

From Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC Sir: The problem for the Serious Fraud Office in the Maxwell case was that the jury did understand the evidence and the fact that a jury returns a correct verdict is hardly a reason for doing away with juries. The only sure way of getting convictions is to let the SFO decide the result. Yours faithfully. ANTHONY SCRIVENER 2-3 Gray's Inn Square 22 January

### Altered states

From Mr Norman Murray Sir: In his letter (20 January), Aivars Sinka declares that the Chechens "are as fully deserving

as the English of their own state". Many of us in this part of the world, and in Wales, would agree that the English fully deserve nationhood, and earnestly hope they soon achieve it. Yours faithfully, NORMAN MURRAY Edinburgh

# Labour simply loves to be embarrassed

### Today: All you need to know about the Labour Party.

Why is there all this fuss about Harriet Harman and her child's What fuss? Well, the Tories are going on about U

as if she had hired Tiggy Legge-Bourke in person to educate the child. Oh dear, you aren't used to politics, are you? This fuss about Harriet Harman isn't a fuss at all.

What is it, then? It's a dirty trick. A Tory dirty trick? No, it's a Labour dirty trick.

Labour engineered all this on purpose? Oh, yes. You see, the Labour Party is very keen to win the next election. However, the Labour high command know that there are various pitfalls they have to get through before elec-tion time. No matter how careful Labour is, they always end up with egg on their faces because someone senior in Labour has gone private in hospital or gone private in education, or because the unions have engineered a strike at the wrong time, and this makes Labour look as if they are

hypocrites. The worst possible time to

do this is just before the election. So



this time Labour have decided to get their pratfalls over long before the election, and have them nicely out of the way, and long forgotten. So Harries Harman was instructed to do this by Labour policy planners?

Indubitably.

So it's not hypocrisy? Not in political terms, no.

Is there such a thing as hypocrisy in politics?

Can you give me an example? Yes. For the past 15 years the Tory party has been proclaiming Itself to be the party of law and order. During that time serious crime has rocketed up and convictions have not kept pace. Therefore it is now easier to get away with crime than it has ever been. Yet the Tory party claims to be the party of law and order. It does not take a genius to spot an element of hypocrisy here. So you think that the breakdown of

permitted to happen by the Tories, is more serious than Harriet Harman's choice of school? public does.

I do, yes. I do not think the British Could you explain that?

Certainly. There is something every politicians knows, but never acknowledges, and that is that the British people are two different animals. There is the public, and there is the electorate. The electorate is a wise animal which exercises its democratic rights, considers the issues, joins in national debates, and so on. The public is a yobbish gang which reads the Sun, throws wrappers in the streets, buys tickets for lotteries which it can't win and votes for the Tories at the last election.

Unfortunately, the wise voters and the yobbish public are the same people. The electorate knows, for instance, that it is crazy to build more roads and sell more cars. The public wants nothing better than to jump in its second car and drive 100 yards to the shops. But they are the same people. That is why politicians sometimes take us seriously, and explain ideas to us, and why sometimes they rant and rave. It depends whether they are addressing the public or the voters.

How do the two animals feel about

Harriet Harman?

The electorate knows that Harriet Harman has done nothing wrong. The public thinks she has made an idiot of herself. Will she resign?

No. The Labour Party needs people like her. Young blood, you mean?

No. People with symmetrical initials. Research has shown that people trust figures with the same initials on both names. That's why the Labour Party gives such prominence to Mo Mowlam, Harriet Harman, Donald Dewar and so on. There's nobody like that in the Tories that I can think of.

Or anywhere else, come to that! On the contrary. Showbiz is full of them. Arthur Askey, Billy Bennett, Charlie Chester, Donald Duck, Edward Enfield, Frank Finlay ... Yes, yes, I get the point.

Time for one more question. Tell me one thing. If Harriet Harman lets the side down by sending a child to grammar school, would a Tory MP get into similar trouble if he or she sent their child to a comprehensive school? No. The Tories can get away with far more than Labour because they

 Thought for the day: Peter Mandelson's initials are PM.

# Bosnians agree to free Serb prisoners

# Now we can see how old age looks

A report out yesterday confirms that a radical overhaul of pensions and savings is round the corner

Quite suddenly, we can glimpse in broad outline how our persions will probably be organised for the next backed "funded" pension scheme, so that people are encouraged, maybe forced, to save for their own pension, in the early stages of a social and eco-nomic revolution as important as the rise of home ownership since the Second World War. We may even be start-ing to catch a feel for the way the devel-oped world as a whole will cope with

supporting its ageing population—how it will defuse the pensions time-bomh. That is the real significance of a new report, Pensions: 2000 and Beyond. from a committee set up by the National Association of Pension Funds, published last night.

The problem can be described in three sentences. State pensions almost always rely on the present generation of workers paying for the preceding generation: those paying National Insurance today are not saving for their own future but financing the pensions of their parent's generation.

With a relatively young population and a high proportion of people of working age, there are enough contributions to make it work, but as fewer and fewer people of working age have to support more and more pensioners, the money doesn't go round. Either taxes on the workers will have to be raised, and raised - and we already know how voters respond to that - or pensions will have to be

reduced to unacceptably low levels. Now to the solution that seems to be emerging in this country. It is that we will move to some kind of governmentthat people are encouraged, maybe forced, to save for their own pension, as well as contributing to the state one for current pensioners. We know this is the likely basis for a solution, partly because very similar ideas are being generated from different parts of the political spectrum, and partly because

is hard to see any other way out. Why now? The sensible Labour MP Frank Field, has been advocating a funded scheme for some time, and Tony Blair, in his interesting Singapore speech, praised that country's compulsory savings scheme, where up to 40 per cent of people's salary is deducted and put into a savings account for their old age. We do not yet know what Labour policy might be, but we do know that such a scheme is being considered seriously.

Added to that, we have yesterday's report, which puts flesh on to the bones of such a scheme, and shows how it could be dovetailed into a modified hasie state pensions scheme. We do not yet know what the Government thinks about this, hut philosophically it would fit in well with its presumption that, as far as possible, people should he encouraged to save for their own retirement.

The recommendations of this report fall into two parts: what the state will itself do: and what it will force working people to do.

This country has managed to devise a state pension scheme that will not go



HAMISH MCRAE

Demography dictates that we have to put more resources aside

waves of retirees. Every other major developed nation has enormous unfunded liabilities: promises to pay pensions that the country cannot conceivably afford. The record in Europe is Luxembourg, where these liabilities amount to nearly two and a half times its GDP, with the Netherlands not far

But Britain has achieved financial sanity at the price of parsimony. Our state pensions are pegged to prices, not earnings, so our pensions, small as they are now, will be tiny in relation to earnings in 20 or more years' time. It is hard to see that being acceptable in a decent society.

So the first part of the pensions report looks at ways in which state pensions might be targeted at those bust about 2020 under the pressure of most in need, with the oldest getting

more than the just-retired, and those with income from savings or other pensions arrangements receiving less than those without.

The more you can get people to save, the less of a hurden there will be on this chunk of the pension. And that is where the second and more controversial element comes in. This is the compulsory savings plan, the new National Pension Scheme.

Those of us in work would be forced to save some proportion of our income, within top and bottom limits; that money would be put aside and invested on our behalf, and those investments. would be used on retirement to buy an annuity that would pay the pension. So the size of our pension would depend directly on the amount we had saved. We would still get some small state pension, but the vast bulk would come from our own savings. This scheme would take over from the present state top-up pension scheme, Serps,

While you have to save, you don't ive to save in the national scheme, and this report assumes that most peo-ple will not do so, preferring to take out a private pension scheme, if they don't have one already. But some kind of savings scheme would be compulsory. From that there would be no escape.

This is an idea whose time has come. I believe this for three main reasons. First, demography dictates that we have to put more resources aside for pensions. The choice is really between higher taxation now to build up a sursome form of compulsory savings. I do not think that we trust governments sufficiently to give them more of our money. They cannot even balance their national hudgets, so how on earth can they be trusted with the large surpluses such a fund would generate? So it has

to be compulsory savings, supported by government but distanced from it and nanaged in a way that inspires trust. Second, this idea fits in with the global trend for governments to do less themselves but be responsible for more. They no longer attempt to run airlines or telephone companies (let alone motor manufacturers), but they do increasingly regulate these activi-lies. Paradoxically, they find it easier to police something they do not own

than manage something they do. And third, this idea fits in with the mood towards self-reliance that is evident in societies as diverse as Sweden or the United States: if people can do things for themselves, they should do so, while the state should direct its efforts at helping those who for what-ever reason, are unable to do so.

Britain is interesting in a world context. We have a relatively old population, but we are not now ageing as fast as most other developed nations. We also already have a large private-sector funded pensions system. So our pensions problem is more manageable than just about anywhere else. We will be watched carefully for what we do next. If we head in the direction of higher taxation now to build up a sur-plus in a proper social security fund, or expect others to follow.

But it took about a minute and

a half and very little prompt-

ing hefore the dam hurst and

a hilious wave engulfed John-

soo's reputation. It would be

too libellous to print, but suf-

fice it to say that what fol-lowed was a string of vitriolic

There followed a tirade

along these lines: "She was working for him (Brown) and him alone. You should ask X (a Brownite), who is a very

intimate friend of hers, and a poisonous individual. She was

part of a complete organisa-tion, working just for him."

I bounce these epithets off

her, hoping to elicit a

response. Her eyes widen, she

'I had wanted

Brown to stand

for the party

leadership'

get me to say anything. You can think what you like about

the people who say such things. I do reject any accu-

sation about my competence. Perhaps it speaks volumes

### As wholesome as drinking water

There's nothing very shocking about the idea of giving children alcohol, says Reay Tannahill

ear-olds to drink, says alcohol roup"; "Let children of nine try alcohol, say the brewers."

The headline writers, as always, had a field day in the matter of the Portman Group's

uggestion that British children

he introduced gradually to watered wine and the occasional sip of beer. And yet, once upon a time, most of the Western world children included – pottered amiably through life in a state of permanent intoxication.

Until tea, coffee and chocolcate were introduced in the 17th century, the only widely available options were water, milk, ale and wine. Waler, within range of human habitation, was, if not actually poisoous, not far from it. Most milk in towns came from disased cows, and what was brought in from the countryside was curdled by the time it reached the customer. But fermented drinks were relatively safe - ale for the common people, wine for the well-off.

This applied equally to chil-

dren, who throughout most of history have been regarded simply as undersized adults. Even the newest of new bahies was fed a mixture of butter, boney and sugared wine for the day or two until its mother's milk began to come through, It was weaned on alcohol,

too, on a "pap" made from flour or bread cooked in water and topped up with beer or

As late as the 1830s it was perfectly normal for an ailing infant to be given "steel wine" as a tonic - iron filings soaked in sherry for a month - while nursemaids were notorious for feeding their charges with sugar, water and gin to allow them (charges and nurses) to

get some sleep.

It is, in fact, only in the last hundred years that drink for children has been taboo. In the second half of the 19th century, tea became affordable for everyone, the railways began bringing relatively fresh milk into the towns and water quality also improved. Around the same looks hurt, but her lips stay zipped – almost. "You won't and the temperance movement were making their presence felt. Beer (hopped ale) stopped heing an accompaniment to food and, for men, the pub became a drinking den, a refuge not only from the miseries of industrial labour but from high-Victorian morality. A place where they went to get drunk.

And that, of course, is the

Brewers recommend tots
for tots ..."; "Teach fiveyear-olds to drink, says alcohol
The key to sensible drinking is to drink with food, to regard :! as part of the meal. In France. Italy, Greece and Spain, wines are seen as pleasurable partners to a great variety of foods and it is natural for children to learn about wine as they learn

about food. Beer is different. Especially in its milder form of small alc. it once partnered meals of hread and cheese or meat well enough. But in relation to the lighter and more varied diet of today, it is too strong-tastin: and too filling. The concept in most northern countries of

The key to sensible drinking is to drink with food, to regard it as part of a meal

drinking for the purpose of getting drunk persists.

A couple of years ago an international study of 40 countries suggested that all beerdrinking nations had a bravad: culture, where drinking lots of beer and getting into a fight were part of normal recreational patterns. Beer-drinking countries such as Germany. the Netherlands, Britain. Canada and Australia were at one end of the violence scale and wine-drinking countries at the other. The study put the difference down to the fact that beer was usually drunk alone. without food to modify the

To attempt to transplant the Mediterranean cultural pattern to the beer-drinking sections of society seems unlikely to work. Certainly if France is anything to go by (with its well behaved childreo in restaurants), the increasingly numerous wine drinkers in this country would be well advised to introduce their children to watered wine. but the suggestion of introducing them to beer by way of the occasional sip begs the question. Beer drinking doesn't work that way when the lager

lout is on the warpath. A spokesman for Alcohol Concern made the most telling point in the course of his stern response to the whole idea when he said that "before we can educate our children, we have to educate their parents".

problem with the Portman The writer is a food historian.

# Tony, Gordon and no Joy

Labour lost its omnicompetent campaigns director this week, prey to a split at the heart of the party

Joy Johnson used to be the most famous voice in the she will miss painfully? The press crowd. Outside No 10 in all weathers it was her piercing Northern shriek that ofteo caught the politicians off their guard. "When are you going to resign?" was a favourite - anything to get a filmable reaction. In his book, Sir Bernard Ingham called her the "shouter" John Major once asked uneasily, "Who is that woman who makes me feel like a criminal every time I enter Downing Street?" She once wrongfooted Neil Kinnock with an adroit doorstep after an angry NEC meeting. "Are you happy?" she bellowed at Kenneth Baker, eliciting tell-tale anger as he emerged from Number 10 after being



demoted,

Johnson was the BBC's political news editor, conducting the daily news operation out of Westminster, feeding the many hulletins' limitless appetite for soundbites - 20 seconds and not a nano-second more. It's a tough skill in a tough scrum, and she was the best.

That is why the Labour Party hired her a year ago. And why it has come as a shock to those of us who worked with her in the newsroom to hear of her acrimonious departure from Walworth Road on Monday. I tried to find out what went

As Labour's Campaigns Director Johnson was responsible for media strategy, for in France campaigns in the 80 target seats, and for what are called "rehuttals". "But I was always better at attack than defence," she says, recalling sallies such as the Chicken Run, teasing Tory MPs fleeing losing seats to find better ones. "You can't put a good spin on a bad story," she has always said, but then she has been shocked to find some journalists surprisingly easy to spin: "I'm against the lobby system, which just spoon-feeds journalists. Some journalists are not at all rigorous. Some are lazy, some are too keen to keep in close to power."

So why has she been ousted from her job in the run-up to

Yesterday the Tory MP Peter Luff claimed he was on a noble cru-

sade to protect teenagers from sex

education - or "porn" as he prefers to call it - printed in teenage magazines. He wants a "return to mnocence"

where teenagers are sheltered from all

talk of sex. Ironic on a day when the

media spotlighted a glaring example

of what such "innocence" can breed

inside word was that she was part of an attempt to stop all power being sucked upwards into the leader's hands, while she herself would only admit to her natural journalistic instincts jarring with political imperatives. The truth? Even for this, her one and only interview, her lips are zipped, even if her eyes are expressive.

Trouble first surfaced publicly on the October night Tony Blair was making his leader's speech to the party conference which fell on the same day as the OJ Simpson verdict. Without consulting Joy, Blair's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, sent a fax to the BBC demanding that the Labour leader news running order. The BBC director-general's brisk and rude response called the fax "crass", "I was shocked when I was told about it," she says. Probably because she knew full well that the speech would lead the hulletins anyway. That incident defined the tensioo between herself and the leader's office that was eventually to become unendurable.

Yesterday Labour was saying nothing openly about her departure. But off the record, a picture emerges in which Johnson became a player in both a key personal rivalry and a prime clash between old and new Labour styles of politics.

She was hired by Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor and head of party campaign strategy. Her appointment was approved by Tony Blair, though she made no secret of her personal politics: "I had wanted Gordon Brown to stand for the leadership. I believe he really wants a fairer society - and means it. When he didn't stand, I voted for

Margaret Beckett."

Like other parties, Labour's press operation has an awkward division hetween the role played by press officers workmg out of party headquarters and the team in the leader's

What made the split so deadly for Joy Johnson was that this division emphasised a growing chasm between Tony Blair's people and Gordon Brown's people. You could try to dress up the animosity in the respectable clothes of policy difference and matters of substance - but the players would still look pretty naked. The fact is, most of politics is far more about personal rivalry, jealousy



Joy Johnson: 'I was always better at attack than defence'

and suspicion than usually gets Political leadership is absolute

For there is but a cigarette paper between the politics of ond rank. Brown and Blair. The story of Romulus and Remus. One man nobly stands down for the good of his friend and his party. But he remains embittered, his friend's gratitude never lasts more painful than anticipated. only game in town, the growing

and leaves even the closest colleagues far behind in the sec-

The charge against Joy Johntheir falling oot is a fine human drama - a Cain and Abel, a son is that she set about pro-moting Brown in particular, to offset the overwhelming publicity given to the leader. She rejects that, and says she promoted the whole team. New Labour, however, is presidenlong enough, and living in the tial in style, and as she has disshadow of such a hright sun is covered painfully, that it is the

Photograph: Geraint Lewis face of modern politics every-

where. One of her predeces-sors, John Underwood, fell under the same steam train. Will they replace her? "Oh,

I don't think they will!" she says with a quick, sharp laugh. Joy Johnson's fall has exposed the venom between the Blair and Brown camps. One Blairite said: "No, no, I couldn't possibly talk about it. Absolutely not. We are injuncted not to say a word about what really happened."

that this all comes from one Indeed, plenty on the other side are full of indignant praise for her, and anger at her

untimely removal. For outsiders, the wonder-

ment of Westminster is that politics expends so much passion about so little. Commentators delight in the Shakespearean tragedies played out in sound and fury, though they signify nothing more than the fascinatingly fissiparous tendencies of all human organisations, from street committees to the floor of the House. This, it has to he said, is the

most minimal interview I have ever conducted, since Joy Johnson was determined to say as little as possible in the hour and half we spent together. "Why did I ever agree to this interview?" she asks at the end, suddenly panicked that she might have said something that mattered after all. "Because it's good to talk," I said, with irony. But the only talking that goes on is behind the scenes, and it is fierce and acrid in the safety of absolute

young age) leads not to fulfilment, but

yet more pain and self-loathing. We'd tell Sarah that while a little baby may

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# Some advice on sex and hunks

ing birth. Not the sort of advice you would find in the pages of a teen mag-

azine like Sugar.

I feel deeply for Sarah Cook.

Despite the fact that Musa has now been charged with rape and holding his child bride prisoner, Sarah claims he is the one person who makes her feel special. She fled, in desperation, to a man who makes her feel loved and more "beautiful" than anyone has ever made her feel. It's a normal fantasy that many teenagers dream of

The difference is that most of our

Joanne Elvin

teenagers are thankfully given a lot more rational guidance than Sarah has had. In an ideal world she would have been able to nurture her own selfesteem and found beauty and worth in herself. Ideally, Musa's attention may have delighted her but not filled her with gratitude and the conviction that

Most teenagers derive feelings of self-worth from various sources. Tragically, many of those sources have failed Sarah. Her friends, it is claimed, called her fat and ugly. And her parents have encouraged her in her love for a much older boy in an illegal marriage.

A magazine such as Sugar is a source that teenagers can turn to for information, reassurance and comfort. When we write about sex, we're saying to girls like Sarah that they must understand that rushing into a sexual relationship (particularly at such a The writer is editor of 'Sugar' magazine.

love her, raising a child without parental support in a foreign country could be a living nightmare - hig feet or not. We'd urge Sarah to come home, finish school and most of all, develop her self-esteem. So yes, while we might advise Sarah and other teenagers about sex and

relationships, it is information they need to stay based in reality. If on that plane trip to Turkey, Sarah had had a copy of Sugar, perhaps she would have turned around at the airport and headed back to Essex.

- a girl like Sarah Cook. This 13-year-old has jetted off to jurkey, married her 18-year-old dream bunk, Musa Komeagae, and wants to live happily ever after. Now she says she's desperate for a baby by the time she's 14. Her mother has helpfully pointed out that, as she has

hig feet, she won't have difficulty giv-

he was her one chance of happiness.

CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

# BUSINESS NEWS OESK: tel 0171-293 2530 fax 0171-293 2098 MAM swings the battle to Granada

### Fatal blow to Forte underlines immense power of the funds

JOHN EISENHAMMER and SIMON PINCOMBE

Britain's powerful fund managers stampeded into the Granada corral yesterday, with over 90 per cent of them accepting the bid for Forte. "Hostile takeovers are usually pretty close-run things, but this was a landslide," a senior merchant banker said.

Mercury Asset Management delivered the fatal cut to Forte's independence hopes with its decision vesterday morning to tender its 14 per cent stake to Granada. The move by Forte's higgest shareholder sent a number of last-minute waverers heading for Granada, dramatically underscoring the life-and-death power of the giant fund managers.

and Sun Alliance are among those believed to have swung behind Granada, while NatWest said it had stuck with Forte. The big index tracker funds, which accounted for about 7 per cent of Forte, run by BZW, Legal & General, Hermes and Nat West. would normally have been expected not to take a decision on the battle. The vote count last night showed that close to 67 per cent of the shares - with actively managed funds holding 75 per cent – had accepted the bid.

MAM is estimated to have made more than £100m on its shareholding during the two months of the brutal takeover battle, "After a long time de-ciding we concluded Granada should he the better steward of the assets than Forte." a spokesman for MAM said.

MAM decided that Forte was pushed into making corporate changes because of the bid, that its management record was poor and the yield on its assets inadequate, and that it had litwith the current team.

As Gerry Robinson, Granada's chief executive, yesterday celebrated victory, he sought to play down the widespread per-ception of MAM's key role. "This bid would have been won without the support of MAM.

If you are looking for a professional fund manager then MAM acted in a professional manner. There is a lot of nonsense talked about MAM bringing this bid to us. They knew a day before we announced the bid, just like any

other shareholders.

Granada and Forte's intense battle for the allegiance of the fund managers pointed up the power held by the hig pension and insurance funds, which own about 60 per cent of UK equity. The 72 members of the In-Gartmore. Royal Insurance stitutional Fund Managers' Association speak for a total of £1,100bn in assets, not all of which is invested in the UK. Recent years have seen a tremendous concentration of power among the biggest players, with the top 25 institutional fund managers in Britain accounting for nearly half the total holding. The rise of the power of the fund managers, and the concentration, has been one of the higgest changes in corporate life

Who owns UK plc					
ragers					
£76bn					
£72bn					
£64bn					
£48bn					
£43bn					
£35bn					
£34bn					
£33bn					
£28bn					
£25bn					

Warrington of WM Company, which measures pension fund

performance. In making its decision yes-terday, MAM was speaking for more than 30 corporate pension funds it manages on behalf of clients. It was reported that Sir Stanley Kalms, chief executive of Dixons, in an unusual move, had specifically requested that his shares were not voted to back Granada.

Mercury's pivotal decision swung the spotlight on the personal influence of the key fund managers, particularly Carol Galley, MAM's vice-chairman. This is not the first time the 48year-old fund manager bas brought low a powerful figure. It was Ms Galley who swung the hostile bid for London Weekend Television in favour of Granada in 1994, turfing Christopher Bland, the next chairman of the BBC, out of a job. That was the first occasion that anyone outside the City had ever heard of Ms Galley. But the Forte family has

powerful friends in the media. And they have cast Ms Galley in the role of cold-blooded executioner who would sell her soul to produce a better return for the pension funds she manages and a chunkier bonus for herself in the process. During this bid she has been described as tough, aggressive, arrogant, insensitive and the most powerful woman in Britain. She is the £800,000-a-year-plus female workaholic whose only release is to leave early from her London Bridge office for her home in France.

Predictably, her supporters see it differently. "She works effectively," one said yesterday. "But not silly hours. She is often out of the office by 7pm and, contrary to reports, does



To the victor the pressure: Gerry Robinson now faces rigorous scrutiny from the market and the institutions in pruning £2bn of assets in a few months

not fly to ber home in France she read languages at Leicester of £522,000, earned over the percept weekend. She has a collegiate attitude to ber work library as a graduate in 1971. and only uses her private office for meetings."

Married to a German stockbroker, with no children, Ms Gallev is one of 240 fund managers at MAM. Originally from Newcastle, she was educated at the local Gosforth Grammar School a performance-related bonus come a very rich woman indeed.

Since then she has risen to become one of the country's most successful fund managers. The fast set of published MAM accounts show that she received total pay and benefits of £861.000 in 1994. The package included

The same report also revealed that 219 MAM employees stand to share £68.4m in a "golden handcuffs" bonus scheme if they stay on at the company for an "extended" period. Ms Galley stands to be-

### Victory now focuses pressure on Savoy

JOHN SHEPHERD and MATHEW HORSMAN

With its victory confirmed, Granada now faces the hard part making its £3.5bn takeover work. Analysis agree that it will not be easy to prune £2bn worth of assets in the space of a few months, as Granada has promised to do.

The challenge looks just as great for the other two companies whose futures have been in-evitably altered by the bid: Whithread and the Savoy. The pressures on Granada

will be by far the most intense. It hopes to be left finally with the restaurants and budget hotels it had coveted since the start, and a gearing of 70 per cent. But if there are glitches in the planned disposal pro-gramme, the stock market could take its revenge.

Granada is aware of the pressures and the danger of having a powerful shareholder such as Mercury Asset Management peering over its shoulder.

The list of impending sales is long, and could produce some indigestion in the leisure market. Shares in Alpha Airports and Savoy Group are both earmarked for early sale, followed by the 27-strong Welcome Break motorway service areas, which could go to Whithread.

In addition, Granada will sell the Meridien and Exclusive chains, for which it says it has already identified buyers, and the "trophy" hotels such as the Grosvenor House in London. Warns an analyst: "There are

definitely risks involved, and there had better be a good steady news flow over the next 12-18 months," The disposal of Forte's stake

agement time. Analysis say the successful takeover has put Savoy into play. For more than a decade the Savoy, which also owns Claridges and other hatek, has fought off several predatery moves by Forte. The company has recently

stated its desire to remain independent. That, however, may be wishful thinking, with Granada claiming that it has already received several expressions of interest for the Savov stake it inberits from Forte.

There is an outside chance that the Forte family may seek solace by acquiring the Savoy shares, a move which, according to sources close to the Wontner family, would be welcomed. Analysis, however, believe that the Savoy's recovery could be accelerated if it became part of an international group.

Opponents of that option

stress that the mystique of the Savoy would be lost. "People stay at the Savoy because of what it is and stands for. They do not wish to stay at what may eventually become the Marriott Savoy or the Sheraton Savoy. an insider said yesterday.

Whitbread, for its part, has fast become accustomed to disappointment. Failure to buy the Happy Eater and Little Chef roadside restaurants from Forte can be added to a long list of past acquisition failures.
We gave it our best shot.

Whhbread spokesman said of the Granada win yesterday. We have ambitious growth plans for our existing brands and we're always on the look-out for new ones. High on the agenda is a desire to buy Allied Domeco's stake in Carlsberg Tetley. But this is also being eyed by Bass, toppled from pole poin Savoy Group will absorb by sition in the hrewing league far the greatest amount of manwhen S&N bought Courage.

### Bombardier damper on Fokker rescue

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Speculation increased last night that Bombardier, owner of the Belfast defence company Shorts Brothers, may get involved in a rescue plan for Fokker, the ailing aircraft manufacturer.

Bombardier has a hig interest in seeing Fokker survive as 800 jobs at Shorts are dependent on supplying aircraft wings to the Dutch company, whose owner Daimler-Benz withdrew financial support on Monday.

Linda Coates, a Bombardier spokeswoman, said the suggestion that her company may buy part of Fokker or help with a bail-out was pure speculation. "Sborts Brothers has a supplier relationship with Fokker and that's it." she said.

Montreal-based Bombardier, involved in aerospace, consumer products and transport. has a history of acquiring troubled companies, particularly aircraft manufacturers, and turning them around. The compay, which is said to have large large financial resources, owns de Havilland, maker of the Dash 8 turboprop, and the jet-

maker Learjet.
Although Fokker's aircraft assembly lines are likely to close, there were suggestions last night that the Dutch govcriment might provide hridging loans until other parts of the company were sold.

Andre Mulder, analyst at

BZW, said Bombardier was the most likely candidate to show an

interest in Fokker. "But the Dutch government needs to clean up the company first and then offer it to Bombardier for a symbolic guilder." Another analyst said the Canadian company was "the most likely new parent in a long list of highlyimprobable buyers."

Analysts dismissed BAc as a potential buyer as it is a direct competitor and would gain from Fokker's exit from an aircraft market plagued by overcapacity.

However, rival aircraft mak-ers could suffer if 76-year-old Fokker went into receivership and aircraft were put on the market at reduced prices.

Fokker's aircraft production unit will probably stay airborne for the time being without creditor protection as Daimler had guaranteed the delivery of previously ordered Fokker planes.

Leo Steijn, for Fokker, said Daimler could also gain from this as two of its companies had bought dozens of leased Fokker planes in recent months. "That lease portfolio is worth 1.4 hillion guilders (£560m). If Fokker collapsed, that value falls dra-

matically," he said.
The Dutch government was bolding a crisis meeting last night, trying to work out how to salvage the business after failure to agree a refinancing package with Daimler.

If Fokker falls it could trigger one of the higgest mass redundancies ever seen in the

# £1.9bn Premier buy to propel Farnell into Footsie

TOM STEVENSON

spring after an ambitious US acquisition, one of the least wellknown companies to have joined the ranks of Britain's largest companies. The deal, the price of which raised eyehrows in the City and knocked almost 10 per cent from the shares, will triple the size of the Wetherbybased electrical component distributor, giving it a market value of almost £3bn.

The purchase of Premier In-

negotiated by Railtrack boss
Bob Horton, a non-executive director of Farnell since last year and a long-time friend of Mort

company's growth and news of though they agreed with the commercial logic of a merger that will create large economies of 21 per and a long-time friend of Mort

cent growth in profits for the of scale. Unlike many of Farnell and Premier sell comfamily-controlled Premier.

After the deal, the renamed remier Farnell

The deal is the latest and largest move by Howard Poulson, chairman for the past three years, who described the Premier acquisition as "a once-ina-lifetime opportunity". Mr Poulson, who inherited a group that had grown profits without dustrial Corporation, also a pause for almost 30 years, has mier's after-tax earnings in the that the deal may stall Farnell's component distributor, was first dramatically accelerated the year to last May, was high, al-

into the Footsie index this Mandel the 74-year old chair-current financial year. Which spring after an ambitious US acman and chief executive of ends on Sunday. ends on Sunday.

Farnell will pay £1.85bn for Premier, part-funded by a ninegroup will change its name to for 19 rights issue at 540p a share raising £349m, and the is-sue of 69.4 million ordinary shares and 27.9 million convertible preference shares. Farnell's £70m cash pile will be wiped out and replaced by net

debts of £450m. Analysis thought the price paid, representing 26 times Prenell's recent purchases, Premier is not an underperforming business and increasing its re-turn on sales to Famell's impressive levels will not be easy.

Other worries included a possible overhang of stock from the Mandel family stake, 25 per cent of the fully-diluted capital of the enlarged group. Various agreements are in place to create an orderly withdrawal if the Mandels decide to cash in their holding, but analysts agreed remarkable share price rise

ponents through catalogues and generate strong cash flows and margins by charging a premium price in exchange for a highquality, fast service. There is little overlap in

terms of products and suppliers and much of the benefit of the deal will come from pushing each other's products to existing customer bases. Like Farnell, Premier enjoys

an unusually high margin for a distribution business, about 20 per cent in its higgest operation,



Howard Poulson: Has made dramatic impact on growth

# Lending stokes inflation fears | Bidders line up

**Economics Correspondent** 

A surge in bank lending in December, along with signs of an upturn in construction, raised doubts yesterday about the room for further interest rate. cuts. But a subdued Confederation of British Industry survey showed that manufacturing remains the weak link in the

economy. Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said last night that be stuck by his forecast that growth would recover this year. "I believe that the pundits who are being more pessimistic will be proved wrong," be said. Mr Clarke added that inflation

prospects were encouraging.
The figures taken together suggest that gloom about the economy has been overdone,

There is now a lot of evidence pointing to a turn in economic prospects," said David Owen of Kleinwort Benson, warning that the current pace of lending

could signal higher inflation. Output is growing at the slowest pace for over two years, according to the CBI survey. Andrew Buxton, chairman of the CBI's economic affairs committee, said the survey supported the decision to cut base rates last week by quarter of a point. But be added that there was no urgent need for another cut: "I don't think we are very close to a recession.

Some economists said yesterday that the Bank of England would use the strength of lending to argue against further hase rate cuts. But Mr Owen said: "The political imperative economy has been overdone, is to get rates even lower before some City analysts agreed. is to get rates even lower before the May local elections."

The CBI's quarterly survey sbowed that manufacturing remains stuggish. For the third survey running, more firms were pessimistic than optimistic about the general husiness situation, although by a smaller margin than four months ago.

New orders were flat over the

M4 Annual Growth

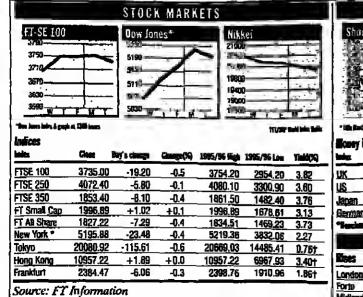
past four months and the trend m output weakened.

orders to pick up during the next four months. The balance of firms expecting output to rise rather than fall increased to 16 per cent. But the CBI warned this could be partly wishful thinking. However, total lending by

banks and building societies jumped by £6.3bn last month, compared with £3.4bn in November, the Bank of England said yesterday. The figure would have been £1.1bn higher but for a one-off loan repayment to one of the banks by a subsidiary. The British Bankers' Association, whose members account

for about 70 per cent of loans, said demand was up across all sectors. There was a takeoverrelated jump in energy industry





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# in approaches for Midlands

PETER RODGERS and MARY FAGAN

The takeover boom in the electricity industry stirred into life again yesterday for the first time since before Christmas when Midlands Electricity confirmed that it had been approached by potential bidders.

The shares rose 10p to 368p following a 14p rise on Monday. The earlier rise came after it emerged that Tractebel, the Belgian utility, was potentially interested in the company.

Other suitors thought to have knocked on Midlands' door include General Public Utilities, the New Jersey-based utility, and Houston Industries, which unsuccessfully tried to poach Norweb from North West Water last year.

A few weeks ago there was also a suggestion that Midlands would discuss a friendly merger with Southern Electric, the distribution company in the South of England. Southern, which is subject to a bid by National Power, has always made clear that it would welcome approaches from fellow regional firms. But Midland played down suggestions that a move was imminent and it is thought that any further announcement

could be weeks away. Midland said that although il had received approaches since the lapse of a £1.95bn offer from mediate prospect of an offer being made for the company."

The PowerGen offer was referred to the Monopolies Commission by Ian Lang. President of the Board of Trade, and the report is not expected to be submitted to the Government before late March, followed by a period during which ministers will consider whether to act on

any recommendations.

This long delay could give rival bidders a window of opportunity to challenge PowerGen, particularly those from abroad with few UK electricity interests whose offers would pose no serious competition problems. Previous for-eign bids bave been cleared by Mr Lang. PowerGen, along with National Power's bid for Southern, were both referred because the takeovers would result in a return to the vertically integrated structure that was dismantled at privatisation.

The approaches to Midlands are believed to have been from senior executives in interested suitor companies rather than from the merchant banks that are known to be scouring the country for the remaining electricity takeover business available.

Tractebel, the £4bn Belgian company that owns two powers plants in Northern Ireland. confirmed on Monday that it was exploring opportunities in the British power industry but PowerGen, "the board does said reports of any imminent not consider there is any im-



expensive fautasy in the same of the same

for investors

COMMENT

'If this bid has achieved nothing else, it has sent out a clear warning to underperforming,

uncommunicative managements: reacting in the

desperate. panic-stricken way that Forte did won't turn the tide'

Now is the time for inspiration and innovation As every conquering hero invariably discovers, winning the buttle is the easy part. The real difficulty begins when you try to establish the empire Heroit Part of the part of

to establish the empire. Having won control of Forte. Gerry Robinson and his team at Granada face as lough a management task as they come. Over the next six months he needs to deliver a steady stream of asset disposals at prices that might be difficult to achieve even in a sellers' market. As it is, the sheer weight of top-notch hotels going up for sale would normally be expected to drive prices down. On top of the planned £2bn worth of dis-

posals, he needs to bring about a sea-change of culture and service in what remains of the dismembered Forte group. There is no doubting the potential for improvement that lies within Forte. Anyone with the unfortunate experience of staying at a Posthouse hotel in recent times would be able to tell you about it. Nonetheless, achieving such change at a time when the arithmetic of the bid requires savage cost-cutting calls for swift and delicate footwork as well as an inspired and innovative management approach.

Judging by yesterday's landslide victory, the City seems to believe he can do it. It is important to realise, however, that it was as much the City's desire for revenge as any inherent belief in Mr Robinson's manage-ment abilities that swung this bid. Ms Galley's early acceptance yesterday morning may have helped to create a snowball effect,

lusionment among Forte's shareholders. Sir Rocco Forte has paid the price.

If this hid has achieved nothing else, it has sent out a clear warning to underperforming, uncommunicative managements; reacting in the desperate panic-stricken way that Forte did when hostilities began won't turn the tide. It also shows the City has little patience with dynastically-run companies that pursue personally motivated campaigns. While it is true Sir Rocco eventually took steps to disentangle Forte from its disastrous 13-year siege of the Savoy, it looked too much like a death-bed repentance to be taken seriously. His use of capital markets 18 months ago to issue stock at a deep discount to underlying assets was for many big sharebolders the final straw. But although revenge may be sweet, the aftermath can be a messy one. Over to you Mr Robinson.

### Extra pennies make Farnell a cash machine

As with many of the best stock market in-vestments, few have even heard of Parnell, a company that for many years has been quietly coining it from one of the least glamorous businesses known to man, electronic components distribution. Its lack of profile

part of £1bn. Nor will it stop the company cruising into the FT-SE 100 in the spring when its latest deal, the £1.85bn acquisition of US rival Premier, triples its size again.

By any measure this is a hugely ambitious deal and the market's scepticism about Farnell's ability to cope was writ large in a 62p fall in the share price to 617p. Howard Poulson, chairman, described the acquisition as 'a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity", and for business worth less than £200m five years

ago it is plainly a massive leap.

The price at which Nat West and BZW felt comfortable underwriting the rights issue clement. 540p against a share price of 679p, hardly suggests enormous appetite for the deal. With earnings dilution of nearly a tenth expected in the enlarged group's first year's trading, the worries of managing a big US husiness by remote control and the 25 per cent vendor's stake overhanging the market,

that caution is justifiable.

But anyone who knows anything about Farnell is likely to give management the benefit of the doubt. Dull it may be, but with a return on sales any other wholesaler would kill for, a fast-growing market and state of the art IT systems, who needs glamour?

Farnell makes a 20 per cent profit on sales for the simple reason that it is neither here nor there to the men in white coats in small electrical labs whether they pay 10p for that small but crucial little connector or 11p. hasn't stopped Farnell's market value rising When you are only buying half a dozen, the

bottom line is not to be sneezed at.

That extra penny a sale has made Fametl
a cash machine. It may have overpaid in the short run, but a few more years of the 21 per cent growth Farnell promised yesterday and nobody will notice. You never know, one or two people may even claim to have heard of the company.

### Jaw jaw could serve BT shareholders well

Over the next two to three weeks, British Telecom must respond to two key reg-ulatory initiatives; its approach could mark a watershed in the company's history. If BT a watershed in the company's fistory. If B i digs its heals in and kicks against the regu-lator, it will certainly end up with the Mo-nopolies and Mergers Commission. As British Gas has already discovered, that can prove a fate worse than agreeing the regulator's original demands. Equally, BT may have reached the point of no return; for shareholders, it might argue, a stand needs to be taken against the ever-encroaching powers of the regulator. Which way to go?

On one of the initiatives, the new price cap to govern BT into the next century, we don't yet know precisely what Don Cruickshank, director general of Oftel, has in mind. But we do know he wants BT to live with a much smaller rate of return on capital than regulator before the MMC.

allowed. That means a correspondingly tough price cap regime. The quid pro quo is more flexibility for BT to decide what to do with its various tariffs but the overall effect would be deeply negative.

BT must decide whether increased competition is in any case going to drive rates of return down to the levels envisaged by Mr Cruickshank. By the turn of the century, 80 per cent-plus of telephone subscribers will have some kind of a choice of carrier.

Harsh though Oftel's proposals might be, the market place might prove harsher still.

The second initiative is equally hard to call. Here the regulator is asking for a general decay. eral prohibition on anti-competitive behaviour, a catch-all clause that would allow the regulator to deal swiftly with any abuse of dominant market position. This is a reverse of the present position where a new licence amendment has to be sought every time the regulator discovers a new case of abuse, a situation that plainly suits BT. Again, how-ever, the detail of this reform provides plenty of scope for negotiation. Already Mr Cruickshank has shown himself ready to retreat from the extremes of his position; the requirement that BT give competitors notice of all new services, a key objection to the regulator's proposals, is being dropped.

Jaw jaw is usually much better than war war. It may well be the case that BT is able to achieve more for its sbareholders by adopting this approach than challenging the

# Talk of \$4bn takeover of Apple by Sun lifts shares

and MARY FAGAN

Sbares in Apple, the beleaguered computer group, jumped last night amid speculation that it was poised to accept a takeover offer from Sun Microsystems, the maker of high-end computer work-stations.

First whispers of the deal emerged as Apple's chief executive, Michael Spindler, was preparing for what promised to be an angry annual shareholders' meeting yesterday in Cu-pertino, California, where the company is based.

At the same time the company, once the darling of the industry, said it had appointed one of its executives, Saljiv Chahil, to the newly-created role of senior vice-president of corporate marketing.

The absorption of Apple by Sun would signal a fundamen-tal recasting of the computer in-

dustry landscape. It would in effect sound the death-knell for Apple, which pioneered the marketing of easy-to-use personal computers to consumers in the 1970s and 1980s with its

Macintosh operating system.

More recently Apple bas been beset by problems for which Mr Spindler has received widespread criticism. Last year. it failed to keep up with demand for some of its lap-top products and dramatically cut its prices in a bid to defend market share. It recently announced losses of \$69m for the quarter ending on 29 December, which should have been its most lucrative.

The company's crucial difficulty has been fending off the increasing dominance of the socalled Wintel system for personal computers that use the Window's package developed by Microsoft with powerful computing chips manufactured hy intel. In spine of its enduring stars of the industry.

popularity among some consumers because of the simplicity of its system, Apple has only 8 per cent of the US per sonal computer market.

Details of the deal were reported by yesterday's Wall Street Journal, which said that a final agreement was "imminent". The paper said it was likely to he a stock-swap transaction valued at about \$4bn, or \$33 per Apple share. That would be half of what Apple reportedly asked IBM for the company during takeover negotiations in 1994.
Scott McNealy, Sun's chief executive, is believed to have

heen meeting with his staff over the past few days to put the finishing touches to an offer. The closure of a deal would be a significant conp for Mr Mc-Nealy, who at the age of 27 founded Sun with three partners and has seen it rise over the past 14 years to become one of the

Sun huilt its success on workstations using the Unix software system which networked with hardware and software from a variety of manufacturers. The company, which went public in 1986, is also cashing in on the

than half of all Internet servers. Reports about a link with Apple surfaced in 1995 but talks were apparently suspended late last year when Apple first indicated that it was on track to make a loss for the quarter.

Internet boom, providing more

Last week. Apple unveiled the beginnings of what was expected to be a radical restruc-turing. But the hopes of those who expected the board to demand the resignation of Mr Spindler were dashed.

If Sun does acquire Apple, it is expected that it would largely abandon the production of Apple Macintosh computers and license their manufacture to other companies.



Under siega: Michael Spindler, chief executive of Apple recently announced \$69m losses and a restructuring

### IN BRIEF

### Spottiswoode overturns Gas delays

Attempts by British Gas to delay competition in the domestic marketplace from April this year have been overturned by Clare Spottiswoode, the industry watchdog, writes Mary Fagan. Ms Spottiswoode said the situation would be kept under review but that she "has not heard anything" to convince her that the date should be pushed back. Ms Spottiswoode said British Gas is "supporting this process" but the company countered that its stance had not in fact changed. The Government plans to introduce com-petition from 1 April in an area covering 500,000 homes in the South-west, with the market opening fully by the end of 1998.

### **Barings administrators sue auditors**

Coopers & Lybrand and Deloitte & Touche, former auditors at Barings, the merchant bank that collapsed after one of its dealcrs, Nick Leeson, ran up unauthorised trading debts of £800m, have had legal proceedings issued against them by Ernst & Young, the bank's joint administrators. Ernst & Young's claim for "substantial" damages alleges negligence on the part of the Singapore offices of Deloitte & Touche and Coopers & Lyhrand, together with the London office of Coopers & Lybrand. The allegations

### Nuclear debt 'poker'

Sir Peter Middleton, chairman of BZW, told MPs on the Commons trade and industry committee that the Government and British Energy were playing a "game of poker" over the amount of debt the nuclear company would carry when it is privatised in the summer. Revealing that marketing of the sale will start in March, he said he was sure the argument over the deht would be resolved in time for the prospectus.

### US consumer spending up

Consumer spending in the US jumped by 0.9 per cent in November, according to delayed figures yesterday. The unexpected rise was tue to energy use, and had little impact on the markets. December retail sales will turn out to have been very weak, preliminary surveys suggest. The yield on the benchmark 30-year treasury bond edged up due to continuing uncertainty about the Federal budget.

# Unilever cleans up with £360m Canadian buv

Sidders line:

in approach

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch consumer products giant, made its largest acqusiition for more than five years yesterday when it agreed to pay £360m for ing products. It is particularly Diversey, the industrial clean-strong in the food and heverage ing division of Molson, the Canadian brewer.

The deal doubles Unilever's

products market and makes it number two behind Henkel-Ecolab of Germany.

Diversey is based in Toronto and specialises in the manufacture of non-domestic cleanmarkets of North America, Europe, Japan and the emerging markets. Unilever says Diversey share of the industrial cleaning will complement Lever Indus-

trial International, its existing industrial cleaning business that makes floor care and surface cleaning products.

David Laing, of brokers Henderson Crosthwaite, said: "It fits nicely with their existing business and I'd imagine Unilever will be looking to add to it with similar deals if it can find them." Diversey achieved operating profits of £34m on sales of

assets was £184m at the balfyear ended September.

The deal is likely to involve some job losses in the UK as Lever and Diversey have British factories and head offices.

Diversey employs 500 in the UK in a Northampton head office and two manufacturing plants in Luton and Alfreton.

£507m in the year to March
1995. The value of net tangible in High Wycombe and Runcorn. The company declined to comment on redundancies yesterday, saying no decision would be made on job cuts before a full review. However, it said

Diversey's head office would remain in Mississauga, Ontario, while the Lever Industrial headquarters will stay in Holland. Unilever claimed the deal

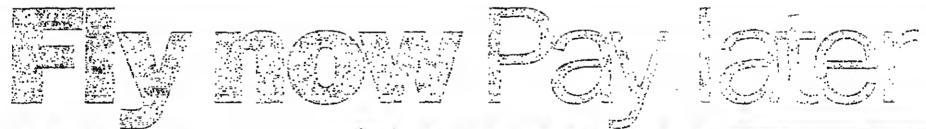
would give it 14 per cent of the industrial cleaning products market which is worth £7.4bn world-wide. The market is growing particularly fast in Latin America and Asia.

Last week Unilever announced the acquisition of the Hong Kong-based Weiss group, which has a strong hase in China, one of the fastest

### Jobs priority in Irish budget

Ireland's Finance Minister, Ruairi Quinn, yesterday moved to protect those on social welfare and offered tax and welfare allowances to lure the long-term jobless back into low-paid employment. Key provisions in his budget include Ir£80 per week (£83) wage subsidies lasting one year for employers taking on those unemployed for three years or more. Reduced corporation tax for small firms, down to 30 per cent on the first Ir£50,000 of taxable profit, is also growing parts of the market. | aimed at reducing Ireland's 14 per cent unemployment rate.

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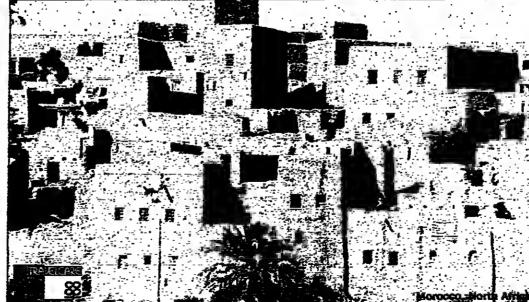
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### THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

# Euro Disney an expensive fantasy

Domino Printing Sciences: at a glance

Market value: £109m, share price 409p

- 7.2

27.7

- 213,237

Rest of Europe

Shares in Euro Disney have a history bounds of one of the French theme edged up 4p to 154p on the back of re-duced first-quarter losses, whilst ignoring various looming charges that

hang over the group. First, the fantasy. The market drew comfort from an upbeat set of figures for the three months to the end of December which showed that Euro Disey's losses almost halved from Fr109m (£13.9m) last year to Fr57m this time. Sales were also up 17 per cent to Fribn. Attendances and hotel occupancy figures have been boosted by last April's price cuts of 20 per cent, though the company did not release details ves-

terday.

There was further encouragement strikes had not dented sales at the end to issue profits warnings after it of last year.

But the reality for Euro Disney shareholders is rather more sober. The main problem is the interest and royalty holidays which are still flattering the group's figures but are already starting to run out. The company began a phased process of interest payments last September and will pay an estimated Fr120m in charges this year. Lease and other financial charges have already increased by Fr37m in the quarter. Management lees and royalties to Walt Disney, which owns 39 per cent of Euro Disney, start in 1999. By some estimates, the company will

have to increase sales 50 per cent over the next three years to cover these additional burdens and justify its current share price. Though the company has improved sales significantly this year due to lower prices, this is likely to prove a one-off boost. On top of this, Disneyland Paris - as the park itself is known - is battling against a strong franc which makes the attraction expensive for foreign visitors, particularly those from Britain.

All this makes November's announcement of the company's first profit look tame, particularly as Fr112m of the Fr114m profit was due to the repurchase of its convertible bond.

Paribas, a long-standing bear of Euro Disney, says that at the current price, the shares are trading on a massive 50 times reported earnings. The broker is forecasting a pre-exceptional profit of Fr177m but a post-exceptional loss, after interest payments, of Fr303m for the full year.

of performing all the magical leaps and shares rose to 245p in May only to end the year not much higher than they park's best rides. Yesterday produced started at 140p, this year is likely to be just as volatile. Eveo after yesterday's figures, the shares look as risky as ever.

### Annus horribilis for Domino

Last year was an annus horribilis for Domino Printing Sciences, the maker of the ink jet printers used to put sellhy dates on food products. In the early part of 1995, problems with the print heads on some of its new machines led to additional costs of £1m and around 2m lost sales.

But worse was to come. In Sepfrom news that the public service tember and November, it was forced emerged that dud ink was congealing in the printers, clogging the jets and, as it turns out, wiping out most of the second-half results.

Domino reckons that that cost £3m directly, with a further £5m hit to the

Five-year record

Earnings per share (pance)

Dividends per share (pence)

**Turnover 1995** 

Rest of World £14,243

Turnover (£m)

Pre-tax profits (£m)

rationalise its headquarters and two loss-making operations. But the net result was a cut in pre-tax profits from shares at 409p, up 5p, on a prospective f13m to £5.16m for the year to multiple of 13. Hold.

Domino now fervently hopes that last year's difficulties are a thing of the past and bas pegged the dividend at 10.1p, despite the bare earnings cover.
The building momentum behind sales since the year end gives weight to this optimism and there is no question that the company continues to operate in

an exciting market.
Industrial ink jet sales are thought to have jumped a fifth to around £600m last year and new applications, like identification for car parts, and new geographical markets are still

But last year's problems have weakened Domino's number two position in the market, which has slipped by an underlying 1 percentage point to 17 per

It has also done itself no favours with investors after spending £8.3m in shares and cash on three acquisitions at the end of 1994, which have collec-Domino has moved with com- tively racked up losses of £500,000.

13.0 5.2

26.1 32.0 210.5

190 70 5

7.95 9.6

Share price

After a roller-coaster 1995, when the mendable speed to deal with its Meanwhile, net cash is down from £16.3m problems, taking a £15m charge to in 1994 to £3m currently, although it is expected to recover.

Profits this year of £13m would put the

### Re-branding aids Shandwick

Shandwick, the public relations group, had a near-death experience in the early 1990s, after a buying spree left it with huge debts and no assets. The company's bankers have got used to net assets permanently in the red at "people-based" businesses and, at £43m in October, Shandwick's deficit on shareholders' funds is the lowest it has been this decade.

In fact, it has almost completely reha-hilitated itself from the problems of the past, as a recent long-term financing deal and yesterday's results demonstrate. Reported pre-tax profits dived from £7.33m to £2.53m in the year to October. But stripping out goodwill on the disposal of the Kaufman advertising business in the US and other proposed sales, there was an underlying rise of 5 per cent to £7.7m. A final dividend of 0.87p pegs the total

payout at 1.3p for last year.

The sale of Kaufman and the proposed exit from two printing business will end Shandwick's restructuring. Its new concentration on pure public relations and its size, where it is second in the world only to Young & Rubicam's Burson-Marsteller, have allowed the group to cash in on the emerging trend for big clients to demand a global service.

The re-branding of the formerly dis-parate US businesses under the Shand-wick banner is already helping to pull in clients. The recent capture of computer giant Digital Equipment, which is expected to become one of the group's top five clients within a year, was said to be directly related to Shandwick's newly-raised

PR companies tend to grow faster than the general economy in good times, so profits of £9m should be possible this year, putting the shares, down 3p at 41.5p, on a forward multiple of 9. With more than balf the revenue coming from across the Atlantic, Shandwick remains heavily dependent on the US market. Even so, the shares still look reasonable value, a view supported by Julian Treger and Brian Myerson, whose UK Active Value Fund recently raised its stake to just over 10 per cent.

John Willeock CITY DIARY

# Sir Peter turns the tables on MPs

Select committees are popular with MPS, allowing them to quiz various powerful figures and appear important to their constituents while

doing so.
Imagine their discomfiture yesterday when the tables were turned by one of the ablest former mandarins, Sir Peter Middleton, now chairman of BZW and formerly permanent Secretary to the

The Trade and Industry committee was questioning Sir Peter over nuclear pri-vatisation, but this Whitehall veteran passed the inquisition with flying colours. Among his better Sir Humphrevisms were: "In 30 years in the Treasury I spent 15 years nationalising things and 15 years privatising them — largely for the same

The main reason, he added, was to increase efficiency. Getting into his stride. Sir Peter observed: "I always thought it was a very fine point about whether the Government controlled the nacionalised industries, or the nationalised industries were controlling the Government." The dazzled MPs never stood a chance.

reasons.

Foreign & Colonial Ventures, an otherwise blameless investment company, has produced a brochure 10 explain venture capital which reads like the sleeve notes from a Yoko Ono album.

"Think of F&C Ventures as blue, the client as yellow. They start off separately. Then a partnership forms. So what happens when you mix blue and vellow? You get green.

This point is illustrated by a blob of blue and a blob of vellow, and finally a nauseainducing gobbit of green. The mantra cootinues: Combining different people, different businesses, is like combining colours. You



Scottish Nuclear, the power company that generates about half Scotland's electricty, is designing its own tartan. Tour mail Scotland's electricity, is designing its own tartain guides at the company's Torness and Hunterston power stations will wear the specially-designed outfits as part of the company's "Come and See" programme. Bill Doig, director of production at Thrness, said the company looked at a number of ways to reinforce its separate identity before deciding on its own tartan. "... we feel that a tartan in the Scottish Nuclear corporate colours of red and blue will get across the message to visitors that we are a Scots company with a strong identity and successful track record." Mr Doig obviously didn't anticipate tasteless Sassenach jokes along the lines of "that'll get your sporran glowing", and the like.

can add a little. Apply layers. Or blend completely. Inherent qualities always remain. Yet something new is born." A design firm called Barnes Vereker were responsible for this cobblers.

Much has been written about the collapse of Fokker, the Dutch aircraft maker. It has taken Lord Tebbit, to put his finger on the true cause; the move to European Monetary Union.

The former minister told their Lordships yesterday that while civil aircraft are priced in dollars, the Dutch guilder is tied to the mark. He said this caused the financial crisis at Fokker.

and the threat to jobs at Bombardier's Short Brothers' factory in Belfast.

It is just as well Lord Tebbit was not asked to comment on a European Union plan revealed vesterday to spend part of a £4.8m scheme on prostitutes in Vienna. The scheme is aimed at ending "social exclusion" with projects which range from helping the prestitutes to supporting London's homeless.

"Helping prostitutes is a perfectly legitimate thing for us to be doing. They are victims of social exclusion," said a Commission spokesman. Tell that to Lord Tebbit and stand well back.

### Profit hopes shore up Zeneca defence

### **MAGNUS GRIMOND**

The drugs and chemicals group Zeneca has in effect shored up its bid defences by announcing a follow charge to improve efficiency and indicating that profits for last year will be at the upper end of expectations.

Forecasts, previously pitched at hetween £820m and £885m ahead of exceptional charges. were being edged up to a consensus figure of about £870m for the year ending last December following yesterday's un-

Swiss drugs giant Roche Holding of Switzerland, have swirled around Zeneca for months. The profits estimate, coming tion, will push up any price a bidder might have to pay, while limiting the scope for a new

owner to further cut costs. The shares dipped 14p to £12.85 yesterday, although dealers said this had less to do with punctured bid hopes than the aftermath of an issue of warrants in the shares by brokers Bid rumours, centring on Barclays de Zoete Wedd on

Mooday. Zeneca traditionally updates the market on current trading in January, while the £60m provision comes half-way alongside moves by the com-pany to further boost efficiency in the pharmaceuticals opera-tio "re-engineer" the pharma-ceuticals business to cut costs housebuilders, issued an unand working capital. None the less, vesterday's news will have

> a bid, should it emerge. Zeneca's bealthy profits for last year have come on the back of strong fourth-quarter sales in pharmaceuticals, which have pushed growth in the whole of 1995 ahead of the trend for the first nine months.

done it no harm in fending off

### Housebuilder launches £73m cash call TOM STEVENSON

amhiguous statement of confidence in the housing market yesterday, launching a £73m cash call to fund an accelerating land-buying program.

Tony Pidgley, chief executive, said he had confidence in the market and needed to be able to react quickly to increasing opportunities to huy good quality land and develop-

ment schemes. Those tended to come when the market had been quiet, he said, adding: two years, believe the opportu-

both organically and possibly through modest acquisoons." Since the half-year end last October, Berkeley has bought enough land for 913 houses on 53 sites at a cost of £43m. With borrowings rising to £16.8m, the rights issue will initially pay off

nity exists to continue to grow

debt and then be used to buy more sites.

Berkeley, which specialises in tre sites is emerging.

mand have included sites on the Thames near Hammersmith Bridge, a scheme oear St Paul's cathedral in the City of London and a development in Brindley Place, a mixed commercial and residential development in

Purchases to meet that de-

According to Mr Pidgley: "Larger urban schemes of this type are often carried out in as-"we are positive about the upmarket bouses, believes a prospects for housing and, given the changes in the structure of the housing industry in the last wards smaller town and city cenlonger gestation period and it is important to acquire the sites

> needs." The rights issue, a 2-for-9 call at 435p compares with Monday's closing price of 509p. The market's welcome for the issue

both when they are available on the right terms and in antici-

pation of future development

yesterday to 504p, well above the notional ex-rights price of

The City's enthusiasm for Berkeley has been underpinned by steady growth since the recession, despite the difficult housing market. Turnover has climbed from £126.5m in the year to April 1992 to £283.4m last year. During the same period, pre-tax profits have trebled from £12.6m to £37.6m.

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section two

# Alldays lifts W&P

DAVID HELLIER

Watson & Philip, the fast-growing convenience stores group, yesterday announced a 74% rise in pre-tax profits and said that in 1996 it intended to add around 100 stores to its Alldays

convenience stores network. The profits growth resulted from increased margins; turnover rose 13% to £497.8m and the dividend is lifted 8% to

16.5p from 15.3p. Chairman James Watson said the results confirmed that the trading format was performing well in the current environ-ment. "We see many opportu-nities to cootinue to grow organically through market share gains, particularly in the area of multi-temperature supplies. Overall, current trends give us confidence that we will deliver continued strong per-

The group said the higher op-erating profit at Alldays ~ up 52% ~ reflected an increase in operating margins from 3.9% to 5% as a result of an improving sales mix, the impact of the Lottery and volume-related efficiences. The network grew by 102 stores in the financial year to more than 450 stores nationally. This figure included 47 company-owned branches and 77 franchised stores; 22 branch-

es were sold or closed. The balance sheet shows the effects of a revised accounting treatment and includes a capital liability of £7.4m which increases balance sheet gearing. Operating profit decreased by 17% to £1.6m in Trademarket,

one of the company's casb and carry subsidiaries.

The shares rose 9p to 574p.

### Tax sweetener boost for Railtrack's bottom line

Railtrack yesterday revealed the impact of one of the most valuable sweeteners the gov-ernment has given to the £2bn privatisacion, when its half year profits included a tax credit rather than the large payment last year.

Over the next two financial ears Railtrack will pay virtually no tax, as a result of a deal last year with the government over the extent to which it could inherit British Rail's tax allowances.

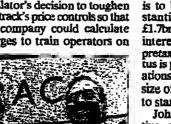
In later years, the company viil also use tax allowances from its planned increase in capital spending - to at least £1bn a year - 10 curb its overall tax bill.

The tax benefits will be a big cost to bottom line profits, to Railtrack's ability to pay divi-dends and to the prospects for the privatisation in late May, offsetting disappointing pre-tax profits in the latest half year.

Pretax profits for the six months to September were £98m, just over balf the £189m made in the previous year (of 13 months.) Operating profits were £15t m, against £305m in the previous year. But net profits of £111m for

down - perbaps halved.

The main reason is the rail regulator's decision to toughen Railtrack's price controls so that the company could calculate the six months to September charges to train operators on



Unveiling the Railtrack figures: Chief executive John Edmonds, chairman Bob Horton and finance director

Allowances inherited from BR will help the prospects for privatisation. Report by Peter Rodgers and Christian Wolmar

were higher than in the whole the basis of inflation minus

of the previous year - a figure eight per cent. But in future which included £9m of property years this tough regime eases to profits and a £13m tax credit. inflation minus two per cent. The cet profit was only £101m Another complication is that in the previous full year, bewhenever trains run an average cause the tax charge was £88m. of more than four minutes late No separate figures are availbecause of track and signalling able for the first half of last year, problems, Railtrack will have to pay penalties to the train opbecause Railtrack's emhryonic information systems could out erating companies. But to help the investment programme and boost the flotation, the impact produce the data.

Comparisons are in any case hard because the previous year on profits has been deferred for included £148m for the one-off several years. costs of the signal workers' strike and £46m as a provision The results showed the penaloes running at £89m in a full year. But the regulator has covering all future privatisation approved £84m in offsetting costs. Without these, Railtrack compensation payments in the year to March, wiping out all but £5m of the cost. Next year would have made closer to £400m before tax in the previous year, so the underlying profitability in the year to this the compensation will rise to March appears to be sharply £90m, before tailing off to £10m in 2000-01.

To confuse still further, there is to be a write-off of a sub-stantial part of Railtrack's £1.7bn debt, which will slash the interest charge and inflate the pretax profit when the prospec-tus is published. Tough negotiations with the Treasury on the size of the write-off are about

John Edmonds, chief executive, said there were 13,000 monitoring points collecting information on train timings. Railtrack passes on £31m to its own suppliers for their own performance monitoring targets and estimates that it will pay out £59m to train operating companies for its failure to keep to the timetable this year.

IN BRIDE

Flotation values MediaKey at £32.7m

Shares in MediaKey, the newly formed media and publishing group, will be priced at 60p when it floats on the stock market next week. The placing raises £25m and values the company at £32.7m. In addition to Video Arts, the training company founded by the comic actor John Cleese, MediaKey is also buying Marshall Information, a book-packaging company.

### Gavin Morris joins Alfred McAlpine

Gavin Morris has been appointed finance director at construc-tion group Alfred McAlpine. He joins from Norcros, the ceramics and specialist printing company where he held a similar position.

Colefax & Fowler sees profits rise by 10%

Colefax & Fowler, the wallpaper and furnishings group, increased pre-tax profits by 10 per cent to £694,000 in the six months to October. Sales in the UK and US are static but 13 per cent higher in Europe. The decorating division is below last year's levels due to the retirement of two senior staff and the continued problems in the UK and American housing markets.

### Central Motor Auctions sales recover

Central Motor Auctions, the vehicle disposal group, has reported near doubled profits of £116,000 for the year to October. Aucoon sales fell in the second half but have returned to more satisfactory levels in the current year. The company will not be paying a final dividend as it would not be covered by earnings. Brian Carter, who took over as chief executive in September, is due to retire in April. A successor is still being sought.

### Emmot moves from Sainsbury to Asda

Asda has completed its oew management changes with the appointment of Bob Emmot as development director. Mr Emmot was managing director of specialist businesses at Sainsbury.

### Shell shares dip 12p on US results

Shell Oil, the US arm of Royal Dutch-Sbell, has reported an 11 per cent decline to \$286m in fourth-quarter profits. Net income for the whole of 1995 came to \$1.52bn, up 199 per cent on 1994, and the best in 10 years, according to the company. But Shell Transport shares dipped 12p to 833p.

COMPANY RESULTS					
	Ternover £	Pro-tax £	EPS	Dividend	
Cautral Motor Auctions (F)	.11.7m (11.3m)	0.12m (0.07m)	0.58p (0.03p)	0.5p (2.75p)	
Colefax and Fewler (i)	17.9m (17.8m)	0.69m (0.63m)	2.2p (1.98p)	0.75p (0.70p)	
Danjes (f)	13.2m (14.4m)	10.4m (11.1m)	42.9p (48p)	16p (12p)	
Declay Traust (F)	- (-)	2.91m (2.68m)		19.33p (17.71 <i>p</i> )	
Dumbes Printing (F)	106m (89.9m)	5.18m (13.0m)	10.62p (32.9p)	10.1p (9.6p)	
Strandarick (F)	162m (152m)	2.53m (7,33m)	1.7p (4.5p)	1.3p (1.3p)	
Shani Group (†!	27.6m (30,4m)	2.9m (3.51m)	19.5p (16.4p)	6.65p (-)	

DATA BANK FT-SE 100 3735.0 -19.2 FT-SE 250 4072.4 -5.8 FT-SE 350 1853.4 -8.1 SEAQ VOLUME 752.7m shares, 38,043 bargains Gilts Index



Cash calls and CBI gloom provide pause for thought Time to take stock of events of an economic nature was the order of the day in London

where dealers paid far more at-tention to the subdued CBI industrial trends survey than the record-breaking overnight per-formance on Wall Street. Shares prices were marked lower from the moment the market opened. The FT-SE 100 share index sported a deficit

throughout the session, and finished at the day's low point of 3.750.0. down 19.2.
Gloom arising from the CBI survey, and unexpectedly huoyant M4 figures was compounded by a weak opening on Wall Street. The Dow Jones in-dex was off 30 points when London pulled down the shut-

ters for the night. Volume trading in UK equities was high, although the final tally of almost 753 million shares that changed hands in 38,000 deals would have been considerably lower but for several special situations - notably Granada's victory in the takeover battle for Forte, in which more than 33 million shares alone were traded.

Even a solid raft of takeover rumours failed to inspire investors, whose hopes for a further cut soon in interest rates were dampened considerably by the economic data. Gilts fell immediately after the release of the M4 figures.

The market was in no mood to absorb the two cash calls announced by Farnell and Berkeley Group. Shares in Farnell, which is raising £349m to partfund the £1.85bn purchase of Premier in the US, returned from suspension and promptly fell 62p to 617p. Berkeley's

£73m rights issue led to a 5p fall to 504p.
Few of the 100 leading shares escaped the mark-themdown treatment. Only two of the handful of leaders that did rise managed to finish with approach. A previous bid for



MARKET REPORT JOHN SHEPHERD

double-figure gains. They were National Westminster, up 11 p to 668p as rumours of a possi-ble bid for Standard Chartered, down 4p to 619p. subsided; and Recam, formerly known as Bowater, which advanced 10p to 379p on vague talk of a takeover hid being launched from the other side

of the Atlantic. Takeover speculation in-jected some spark into the electricity sector. Midlands, ahead 10p to 368p, was the main talking point as rumours intensified that it was in bid talks. The shares are set to run higher today following an after-hours confirmation of an Midlands by PowerGen, off 2p to 516p, is being scrutinised ers Commission.

The outcome of the Granada battle with forte caused tittle surprise. And those who were expecting a close finished were soon per-suaded otherwise by an early announcement from Mercury Asset Management that it had pledged its 14.1 per cent stake to Granada.

Forte's last day of independence was marked with a 11p rise to 384p. The shares traded at 382p when the 60-day kid clocked stopped ticking at lunchtime. Granada retreated

Analysts and dealers husied themselves with thoughts about where the cash element of Granada's hid terms would be re-invested, and which leisure stock would next find itself on the end of a bid.

Ladbroke was marked up 2p to 164p as rumours of a possi-ble bid from Bass, a penny eas-ier to 732p, resurfaced. Whithread's failure to huy Forte's restaurants was greeted with a 4p fall to 684p.
Whithread's willingness to

show it was prepared to gear up to buy the restaurants has fuelled plenty of speculation about where its acquisitive sights will be targeted next.

Whitbread has 100 fewer pubs than it is allowed under the ceiling imposed by the Beer Orders. Potential targets

include Regent Inns, up 29p to 720p, and JD Wetherspoon, ahead 16p to 716p.
Forte's demise was good

ly-expanding pubs and hotels group is tipped to replace Forte in the FT-SE 100 index. Shares climbed 7p to an all-time high of 604p. Fears about the possible

demise of Fokker, however, overshadowed Rolls-Royce, down 3.5p to 194.5p. The company could tose upwards of £100m of business a year done with Fokker if Daimler-Benz, the planemaker's owner, proceeds with a threat to pull the

financial plug.
Rumours about a move by Gehe of Germany to counter Unichem's agreed bid for Lloyds Chemists continued to do the rounds.

Lloyds added 6p to 426p. putting more air between its share price and the value of the casb and sbare bid from Unichem, off 7p to 246p. London Clubs, the casino company, had a good session.

Antofagasta Haldings, the mining and banking group, is causing excitement. Shares, np 60p in the last week, rose 10p to 3-43p yesterday. The talk is that the Chilean au-thorities have sanctinned the creation of one of South America's largest hanking groups, allowing the Luksic family of Chile, majority shareholders in Antofagasta. to pool its banking interests with Banco Central Hispanoamerica. The deal wilt create a banking group with

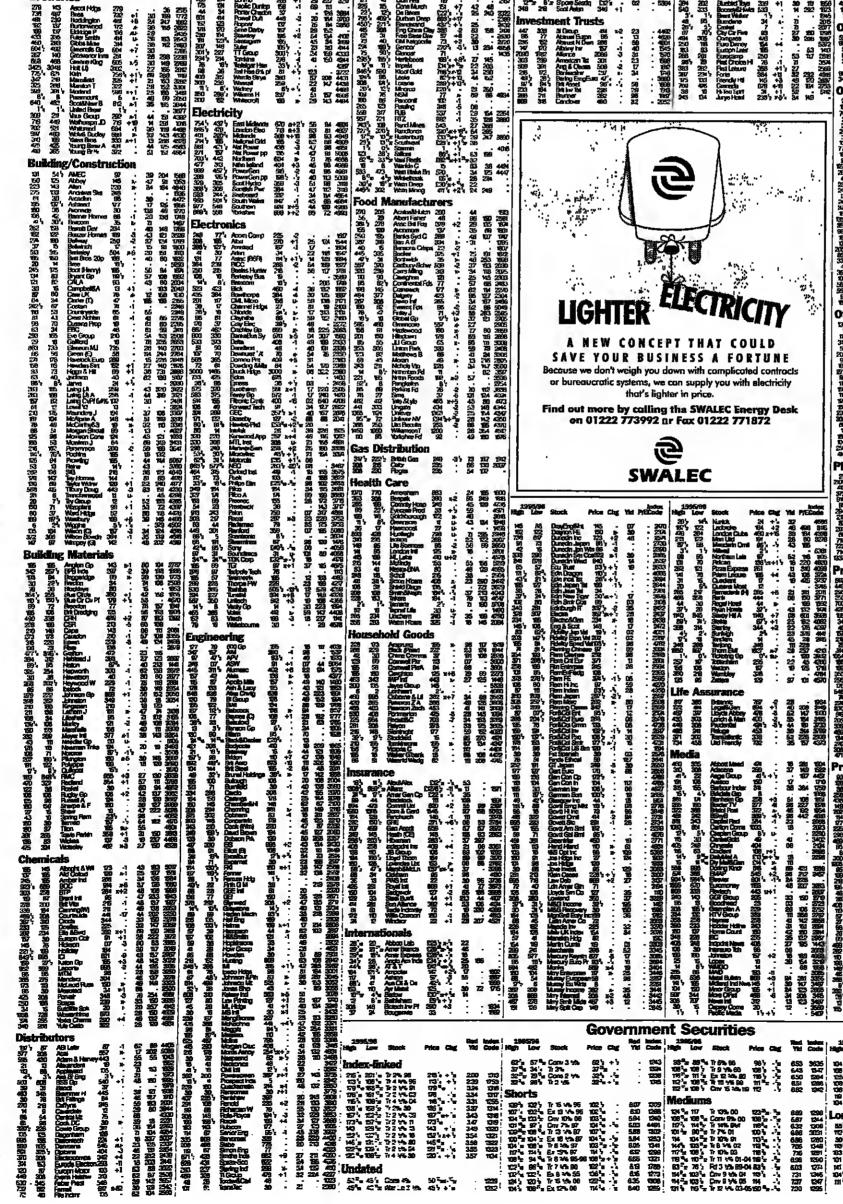
TAKING STOCK

being granted some shares in Institutional investors are said to be queueing to lift holdings in London Scottish Bank, up 2p to 179p. The liq-uidity of the stock will improve as the company

\$10bn of assets and may re-

sult in Antofagasta investors

# 73m eashe



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celebrates its centenary with rising 15p to 459 following an a nne-for-one scrip issue. news for Greenalls. The rapid-Share Price Data Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 20 per cern, as a percentage of the share price. The proc/earmings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other learning that Codemics and Faul a Linkard. Securities Market 6 to provide per Parity Paid pm Nil Paid Shores. The Index allows you to access real-time share prices by phone from Seac, 5 0891 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed next 111 each share. To access financial reports dial 0891 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below. FT-SE 100 - Real-time 00 Sterling Retes 04
UK Stock Merket Report 01 Bullion Report 05
UK Company News 62 Wall St Report 20
Takyo Market 21 Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a deta Independent Index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0991 For assistance, call our helpline 0171 873 4375 (930am - 530pm). Market leaders: Top 20 volumes 590000 Costs Viyela 520000 Blue Circle 540000 MFI 540000 Park Crg. 520000 REXAM 3300000 Trafalgar House 1000000 810000 BP 720000 Shell Transport FT-SE 100 Index hour by hour 14.00 37913 down 12.9 **Textiles & Apparel** 

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**England's** 

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# Maguire sidelined after horrific fall

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Swift reversals of fortune are danger which is ever-present for part of a jockey's joh descrip-riders was emphasised again, as tion, hut few swing between good tuck and bad like Adrian Maguire. After reaching his half-century for the season with a 1,835-1 treble at Warwick on Monday, the Irishman injured a knee in a four-horse pile-up in the first race at Leicester yesterday afternoon, and is expected to be sidelined for at

pation in the Cheltenham Fes- Novices' Hurdle when his tival, now less than seven weeks away, must also be in doubt.
Later in the afternoon, the

Shashi Righton, a conditional rider, somersaulted four times when Lawnswood Junior, a clear leader at the time, fell in the handicap hurdle. Righton was also taken to the Infirmary where he was found to be suffering from concussion, hut was otherwise unscathed.

mount, having made errors at the first two flights, stood off

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Ashby Hill (Folkestone 3.50) NB: Tonys Gift (Folkestone 1.20)

much too far at the third and gave his jockey no chance of staying in the saddle. With the field tightly hunched, mayhem

were all brought down, while said there was nothing we Maguire appeared to be caught could do," Alan King, assistant Maguire appeared to be caught on the left knee by a flying boof.

"It was borrific and there was such a melee," Mick Fitzgerald, who was riding Wayfarers Way, said. "Two of us went over him and it was totally unavoidable. It's unfortunate for Adrian as together again."

Boss's Bank suffered broken ribs and internal injuries af-ter being kicked in the face in the incident, and had to be depected to be sidelined for at least four weeks. His particiBank in the Croxton Park farers Way and Worth The Wait ened after the race and the vet

to the borse's trainer, David Nicholson, said.

An early statement from Angela Watts, a hospital spokes-woman, implied that Maguire would be sidelined for at least six weeks. Fitzgerald offered a he was just starting to get things more optimistic forecast, however, when he collected Maguire as be was discharged

yesterday evening,
"Adrian is comfortable and
has had his knee strapped. He has been told to let it settle

fore going for a further exam-ination. It looks like he has chipped a bone and he seems to have a bit of ligament trouhle too, but he will be more upset that Boss's Bank had to be

yesterday's serious injury is the third which Maguire has suffered within a year. He broke an elbow last April, losing any chance of securing his first rid-ers' championship, and then broke an ankle when Hatcham Boy slipped up on the flat at Ascot in November, again for-feiting all hope of the title in the



process. He also missed last year's Festival at Cheltenham following the sudden death of

### **Home for Lonesome**

shops, 200 Tote ones and over

HYPERION

1.10 WELSH MILL (nap) 1.40 Orchidarma 2.10

Mithraic 2.40 Villains Brief 3.10 Circulation 3.40

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Left-hand, undulating course. Easy fences and long run-in on chase course of 500yds.

Course is 1 m SW of town near junction of A683 and A177, Bus service from Stockton railway station (9 miles away) or Darham railway station (12 miles away). ADMISSEON: Paddock 58 (OAPs 54); Course &C. CAR PARK: Free.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: VIlleton Brief (2.40) & Full Shifting (3.10) have been sent 252 miles by K Burke from Ginge,

2012FO CADEAUX PREMIERE (11) Denys Smith 5 11 11.

NORTHERN ELECTRIC CHARITY NOVICE

HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3,200 added

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added 2m 1f 110yds

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added 2m 1f 110yds

Lonesome Glory, the top American chaser who had seemed a live Cheltenham Gold 1,000 independent bookmakers.
This will give an extra nudge "I didn't feel that in Satur-

ready for the Gold Cup and that was the purpose of the trip," Bruce Miller, his trainer in the

three chases starting in April day's race he showed he was with prize-money of \$375,000.

Maguire: knee strapped

HYPERION

GOING: Chases — Good; Hurdies — Good to Soft.

Right-hand, undulating course with a run-in of one furlong.

Course is 6m W of town off A20. Westenhanger railway station (service from London, Charing Cross) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club S 12 (under 16s free); Tantersalle S8.50.

CAR PARK: Pree; Course Enclosure \$4, plus \$4 for each occupant.

ELEADING TEXINERS WITH EUNNERS: J Gifford — 14 winners from 66 numers gives a success ratio of 21.2% and a loss to a 51 level stake of 50.15; M Fige — 8 winners, 29 numers, 31.2%, -51.10; E Rowe — 9 winners, 55 numers, 17.2%, -52.66; D Grissell — 6 winners, 56 numers, 16.1%, +58.58.

LEADING JOCELYS: A Magnire — 12 winners, 69 rides, 17.4%, -518.99; E Dunwoody — 10 winners, 51 rides, 19.6%, -511.73; M Elchards — 6 winners, 28 rides, 23.1%, +59.73.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN BAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Upb Val (1.50) & The Tartan Dyer (2.20) have been acre 237 miles by W Bethell from Arnold, Humberside; Tonya Gift (1.20] sent 223 miles by M Pipe from Nicholashayne, Devon.

1.20 NORTHIAM NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,200 added 2m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £2,616

FORM GUIDE The move to Reg Akehurst appears to have done the trick with MMROSWAND, who followed an encouraging run tenthe all-weather as Lingsleid with a three-and-a-tent-length second to Kingdom Of Shades in a mainten hurdle on newly going at that course. He scored by 15 lengths in an admittedly weak race back on the Flat there 11 days ago and

has a good chance to open his account over hurdles now. Othern had useful bumper to

has a good chaines to open his account over number row, usual near useful bumper form lest session and made a winning introduction over nimber at Towcester, beating Gather lake a length and a quarter. He should win more races but is likely to find the concession of a stone (including near's claim) to the selection beyond him. Tonya Gift dispetied doubts about her stamma when winning in the Loicester mud aist time, but she faces a suffer tash in this company. Handling disappointed at Warrinck when fourth to Le Khoumf having

look at ease on the tight right-handed bends then, so a better showing can be expected here. Topangar, who showed ability in a couple of maders for Henry Cool last year, and Josh Gifford's R's A Gens look the pick of the debutants. Selections MIROSWAM

1.50 WESTENHANGER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3m 2f Penalty Value £3,306

2.20 DAN SWINDEN SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,600 added 2m 6f 1.10yds Penaity Value £2,044

1 O'5.13 JURY VAL (FO) (13) WA Review W Bernet 10 11 10
2 O'06 BLACK WILL (83) WATHON W Sernet 10 11 10
3 POOD-60 BRINDLEY HOUSE (7) IS 8 Glaser J Whate 8 11 4
4 BEJOINE DOWN (43) JOHN ERRY NEWS Y 11 4
5 O'05-FF CAPTAIN DOLLFRED (7) IR 6 Britsworth D Gendello 6 11 4
6 OOW COUNTRY LORD (84%) IF Power 6 Johnson Houghon 7 11 4
8 EFF/R JANSMITH (43) IM C Webs J Poulon 10 11 4
7 O'0 SFF DUSKY ROWER (9) ON George South Miss H Wright 7 11 4
8 EFF/R JANSMITH (43) IM C Webs J Poulon 10 11 4
10 O'6442 O CHONNON (83) (SF Thous Gabrings) Mis D Hame 6 11 4
11 2 THE BOOLEY HOUSE (20) (The Booky Burch) D Sterwood 6 11 4
12 POOL-39 THE GOLFRED CHROLE (9) (Colo W Poore) R Rows 11 11 4
13 3P-3UCD THAN EMPRESS (7) IN J Syden'S Mellor 7 10 13

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: J Gilford — 14 winners from 66 ru

3.20 Early Drinker

3.50 Ashby Hill 4.20 Rivage Bleu (nb)

ing-price accumulator on the six FOLKESTONE

1.20 Harding

1.50 Ubu Val

2.20 Its Grand

2.50 II Bambino

SIS RACING CHANNEL

Coral of the big three firms) will be able to take advantage of the Tote's full range of bets from to-

significantly, place-only betting prices and SPs.
will be available. There are are

pot, win, each-way and, most will be able to compare Tote

to the others. If the other firms joined in, the jackpot would reg-ularly build up and we could have the thinking-man's alternative to the National Lottery."

SEDGEFIELD

Monaru 4.10 Gallants Delight

2m 1f 110vds

SIS PACING

Cup prospect until his defeat at Haydock on Saturday, is to re-turn to the United States.

US, said. The dual Colonial Cup winner will now take in a series of

Ray Illingworth, the manager, and eight players trans-ferred to Manchester and Leeds airports unaware of the mix-up, while Atherton, the England captain, declined interviews, saying: "No, it's been a long

Test series 1-0 and went down 6-1 in the one-day internationals to Hansie Cronje's team. Atherton's first sight on

the thumbs down. England have just over a week in which to recharge their hatteries before setting off for the World Cup in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, which

Darren Gough was the one home oo a high, "relieved" at rediscovering his best bowling form just in time for the World Cup. Gough is a happy man after at last shaking off the injury

Constant foot problems during the summer, following the

When the one-day series began on 9 January Gough was by no means certain of his World Cup place. But a steady improvement in form means that Gough will go to Pakistan and India on 3 February as England's most effective bowler behind Dominic Cork.

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Cairns struck nine sixes and 10 fours on his way to 120 off 96 balls oo the fourth day of the deciding Test. His six-hitting ranked second only to Walter Hammond for the most sixes in a Test innings; Hammond hit 10 for England, against New Zealand

214 for the first wicket.

Estras (01, m02)
Total (for 0, 19 overs)
Total (for 0, 19 overs)
To bat: "1A Flower, A D R Campbel, D L Hougston, G I Whittad, P A Strang, H H Streak, C Wesnart, E A Brandes, B Strang, Bowelling: Albott 3-1-3-D; Cauris 5-1-11-0; Rennedy 7-1-13-0; Putel 4-0-11-0.

Stante: Browingstern/Belgeber 471, 485,5964 Celle clusterd at 17-p per solo cluster mas. Sip per solo at all other stance.

Jackpot pool swells to £111,000 as Tote spreads its net wider There were two fine advertisements for betting with the Tote yesterday, writes Jnhn Cobh.

The Jacksot which combles.

Winners of less than 33,000-1.

Dual Forecast bets are already available in shops with the Tote bink, but from tomorrow, Quadble in the position of the property of the property of the property of the position of the property of the

yesterday, writes John Cobh. The Jackpot, which rumbles on to Folkestone today, produced a pool of £111,085.46. compared with odds for a start-

Jackpot, Placepot, Trio and

There are around 2,200 bet-Mark Openshaw, of Tote Direct, said: "As a punter, I would link - made up of 800 Coral

peak now. The stable won with Our Silmbridge at Laccasier yesterday, Callic Lifey, 3to out of the hendicap, is one of two Roger Houd-trained runners - Cartaix (Craham Bradley) is the other - ond she is worth noting with the blinkers on for only the second ome, the draind, fourth to Hole Denring in a better root than this at Notinghem last time, stays well and should go close. Vateran Pull Quiver is interesting in his first handicap hurdle, although he will not want the ground to soften much. Tony MicCoy is an eye-catching booking for the pointer North Baredister, who is 7th out of the handicap, while Kinyaz and Eastern Pleasure are others with every chance. Selections DAMCADA

2	2.50	FISKE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,850 : 110yds Penaity Value £2,138	edded 2m 11
_			
	13-510	FLEUR DE TAL (6) (D) Cohn Woods W G M Turner 5 12 D	7 С Месувбу (7)
1	22-0250	SOPHE MAY (7) (CD) U Danelsi G L Moore 5 11 13	E Manny
	31351/0	BROWNSIDE BRIG (18) ( A Low) D Sharehood 11 11 12	Osborne
	001410	ARCTIC LEE (19) (Nrs T McCounty) J Jankers 7 11 6	@ Bradey
	311-580	E. SAMERIO (19) (H.) Marues) H. Manness 9 11 5	
	355345-	THUHOOL (352) (CE) (C Connell) R Rose 8 11 4	DO'Solber
•	0-0P513	HANTHORNE GLEN (15) (8P) (N'S Gal Davisor) Mis M Long 9 10 13 -	A Feeting (5)
	00-4020	MOST IN A MILLION (15) (Leth Hill Chesery S Woodman 5 10 12	5 Titley
	2/3-0500	GAVASKAR (13) (high bres) G Baidry 7 10 7	A P MoCou
0	3/9000	RUN FAST FOR GOLD (15) (7) 84's D.J. Hooged Abus H Wright 9 10 3	A F Bust (5)
1	OP-6000	JAVA STATUTE (USA) (47) (Dr John Heathcook) J Tuck 5 10 2	S Medical
2		STURLIGHT PLYER (21) (Terry Waters) J Long 6 10 0	

Afrimum weight: 10st. The handisap weight Stright Flyer Rist 13th.

BETTIME: 7-2 Might is A Millian, 9-2 Floar De Thi, 5-1 Debboot, 7-1 Brownside Brig, 8-1 Run Fast.
For Gold, Arctic Life, 10-1 Hearthorne Sten, 12-1 others.

FORMIC STRIP.

BROWNISTDE STRIP made his reeppearance at Wanack on 2 January and, although inst of 12 in Most Equal's race, shaped with a deed of promise. Brownside Bing should be much fifter now and can take advantage of a lement hardneap mark, Hawthermae Glern with up 12th for besting Neverald seven lengths at Towcesser last month and finished third of 20 to Distant Home at Lacesser next time, a decent after even if he was bestien 22 lengths. Floar De Tail had just been headed when falling at the taich at Tourton last time, which was a better effort than her previous one. She won a moderate Easter element sist month. The drop in trip can work in Septial May's shour, just easton's course and distance winner having struggled since finishing second to Zajira at Windser (2m) in November. The same is true of 8 Bamblino. Run Fast For Gold has dropped to a decent mark and gave some encouragement when ninth of 18 in Lying Eves' (Am) in recovering the some as the or a susmound, from Fast For Gode File cropped to a decent mark and gives some encouragement when ninth of 1.8 in Lyang Eyes' Wincanson race last time. He was 7th out of the handicap then and is weighted to gitt the better of Milght this A Milliston, numer-up to Complessfortinner over course and distance last month but 50s worse off with Run Fast For Gold for a short-head. Arctic Life, successful at Townester and Southwell this seeson, will find this easier then the novoe hurdle won by Crack On last time. Selection: BROWHISTOE BRIG

3.20 DEAL MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 2m Penal-CAPTAIN PRESPPLE (J J W Windram) Mrs L Wadhern 6 11 8 .....

04	CHURCHTOWN PORT (50) (John Pinckett) P Buder 6 11 8
OFFO/SP	CRACKLING FROST (48) (Linksby For Some Partnership) Mrs O Harry 8 11 8 J F Tidey
4030/20	CREDOM (18) (Funiter Round 5 Woodman 8 11 8 A P Motory
2-45	DATECRIC PROPERTY L (2019) A Victo & A Johnson't P Rephens 10 11 8
OCC3-CLIP	DEBENCIALEN (23) Okarion Scoth) & Bailey 7 11 8
2483-22	EARLY DRIVER (5) (5 Charring Williams) O Sharvood 8 11.8 A MicCarthy
00P5F-	FALMEREDGE (255) (H Grebory Mrs. J Permin 711.8W Materiors
06-356	JOJO (18) (John Grat) D Grasal 6 11 8
	POLICEMANS PRODE (FR) (S) (R R Dove) M Madewik 7 11.8 B Feedon (5)
P-3550	PRECIOUS WORDER (SQ (D.) Butter P Butter 7 118
6342/PP	THE WEST'S ASLEEP (21) (Roger / Sporcer)   Plact-Hoyes 11.11 ( Line R Johnson (3)
PEPP	MEDINIGHT MISSING (7) (Mrs 1 Postherd) Or P Prethard 6 11 3 Dr P Printed
000-375	CRIR MERT (SS) (P R Routout) P Routout 611 3
34873-0	POLLY MINOR (50) (The Witch Reong Cub t) G Engit 9 11 3
	SPAIGLING SPRIT (The Househoo) N Gazzine 8 11 3C Lionobyn
	0FF0/5P 4030/2P 2-45 003-0UP 2F63-22 00/P5F- 06-356 6/F3-323 P-3550 6342/PP PFP/P 000-3F5

- 18 doctored SETTIME: 7-2 Early Drinker, 5-1 Credos, 6-1 Policemens Prido, 8-1 Jujo, 10-1 Specified Spirit, Pass-bridge, 12-1 Dan West's Asinop, 14-1 others
FORM GUIDE

EARLY DRINGER has an obvious charice following his seconds to Fierce at Southwell and to Newhall Prince at Ludiow last week, beaten just a length and a half on the first occasion and two lengths last time. His jumping could be improved but a repeat of either run ought to be good enough. Credion and Joje filled the piaces behind Malwood Castle in a novice hundle at Windsor in November and went on to run in the Sandown novices hardisea won by Goldenswift this month. Joje did better, finishing sight of 22, with Credion builded up, but Credion is very much a chastral tipe and is taken to come out on top. Drumcullion has given no encouragement in his three starts this season, while Policemens Pride is flattered by his form figures and Familiardige tooled ordinary last season. Sparkling Spirit makes a beliefed debut at eight. She is bred for chesing and is likely to do better over longer trips. Selections EARLY DRINKER

	4 8 BUCKLE DOWN (43) Liohn Gred K Bailey 7 11 4 A Theratou	
	5 406-PPF CAPTAIN DOLFORD (7) (R.E. Breisworth) D Gendolo 6 11.4 D Leaby	3.50 LEVY BOARD MARES NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS
	6 000/ COUNTRY LDBD (645) (I P Power) G Johnson Houghton 7 11 4	5.30 E) £3,200 added 2m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £2,437
	7 OO SFF DUSKY ROVER (9) (Dr Google Soott) Miss H Krught 7 11 4	2,20250 dated 2 2 220300 . Girdly falls 224.01
	8 6P.P/6 JAYSMITH (43) (M C Wells) J Poulton 10 11 4 Leopal (5)	1 1.133PU DARK NIGHTINGALE (11) (Mass Lz Clark) O Shenkow 8.12.0
	6 /1235/2 OCEAN LEADER (20) (Sir Peter Goldings) Mrs D Hame 6 11 4 FTittley	2 560 ASHEY HILL (13) (No Marris Humphrey) R Rome 5 11 10 D 0'Self-en
	10 06442-0 030NNYO (81) (S.P. Tindell, M. Brachstock 6 11 4	3 00-0 HARVEST VIEW (18) (C-P P Brown) C Brooks 6 11 5 G Brooksy
	11 2 THE BOOLEY HOUSE (20) (The Booley Bunch) D Sherwood 6 11 4	4 400-000 CHONPOR (7) (TV Cultri) A Carrol 5 11.5
	12 PO(04-3P THE GOLFRES CURVILE (9) (Coin W Poore) R Roses 11 11 4	5 121044 SOOR MASIC (21) (0) (46ss   C Stackwell   Bernet 6 11.2
	13 3P-3U00 TITAN ENPRESS (7) (T 0 J Syden S Melor 7 10 13	6 0440 INDEN SUBGET (15) (F.) Sairsbury! Wis M. Jones 6 10 11 D Byene
	- 13 declared -	7 50U/500- ROMANY SILDES (432) (Herry Skiley) A Jones 7 10 10 5 Carren (3)
	BETTING: 6-4 Unu Val, 4-1 The Booley House, 9-2 Ocean Leader, 7-1 The Golfing Carate, 16-1 Dunky	8 F50 LADY LACEY (13) (Mrs K L Pearl) G Balding 6 10 9
	Rover, 14-1 Captain Delford, 10-1 Brindley House, 20-1 others	9 056-6P0 WHAT'S THE JORE (11) (James R 7xch) J Tuck 7 10 6 5 McNell
	FORM GUIDE	10 (LPP) DURES HOPE (1,472) (May Lindsay Bower) Mas L Bower 9 10 D
	UBU VAL looked a good prospect for the Cheltenham Festival four-miler when making a	11 0-OPPFP THE 80220 (34) U.F. Parmert J. Parmert 5 10 0
	successful debut over regulation fences at Windsor and it was no disgrace to be beaten	12 5-060PO FLY IN AMBER (SS) (Congr Rench Devis D Starch Devis 5 10 0
	21 lengths into third place at Wetherby by Mr Mulligan, one of the top novice chasers	- 12 declared -
	seen out so far. Connections feel the horse is best going right-handed, which looked the	Maximum weight: 10st. True handcap weighes Dutes Hape, The Blazo Sat Sib. Ry in Amber Sat Sib.
	case at Wetherby, where he did not jump fluently early on. That fact bodes well for	BETTINGS 3-1 Dark Nighthamile, 5-1 Askiny Hill, 8-1 Lady Lacey, 7-1 Harvest View, What's Two John.
	today's race and the extra two furlongs are very much in his favour. Ocean Leader, an	8-1 Saxon Magic, 10-1 Indian Saxonit, 12-1 others
	out-and-out stayer over hurdles, ran well to be second to King Luctler in a novice chase	FORM GUIDE
	at Nothingtorn efter a year off and will strip fitter today. The winner followed up at the	Oliver Sherwood's runners have been going through a quiet spell, but he has a strong
	same course next time so the form is sound. Irish point winner The Booley House made	team here today and can win with DARK MIGHTINGALE. She started the seeson off well
	his debut in this country in the second division of that Nottingham race and went down	by winning at Stratford in October and was in the process of putting a disappointing
	just a length to Fellow Countryman, who boosted the form when winning at Kempton on	Exercir run behind her when unseating at the second last at Wannick in the race won by
	Saturday. The time was slower than Ocean Leader's but The Booley House should win	Manufetts. The mare was just behind the winner at the time, although being noden, and
- 1	before long. Best of the others should be Duelcy Rover, who would probably have made	she can make amends in this moderate race. Lady Lacey is interesting off a light weight.
- 1	the frame on his last two starts but for falling. Selection: UBU VAL	in her first handicap hundle. She has shown little so far, but Yony McCoy takes over from
i	DE little de 182 des fus de-	a conditional noise and she is fitted with the visor that she habitually wears on the Flat.
1		to the firm with the string off to the I street on the horse spread and the should

DAN SWINDEN SELLING HANDICAP HRRDLE (CLASS G \$2,600 added 2m 6f 110yds Pernaity Value £2,044  1 1114-PM NEW BRIDE (40) (CA Rober) J Whate 5 11 13	TED LONG CHALLENGE CUP AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,850 2m 5f Penalty Value £2,969  1 2211/4 8074L SQUINE (CAN) (AC) (D) DAS CA CREED & Handood 10 12 0 Miss A Penalt (3) 2 F2POT MASSTRO PAUL (0) (41 Pelbara) J 6dost 10 11 11 3 3-0315F CORDI D'ESTRUPAL (70) (10) (0) (0) (0) (0) (0) 11 Mr F O'Realts (7) 4 275-1F ROCCO (25) (6F) (40 (0) (25) (5-1) Penalty (6) (6) Storing 6 11 10 Mis A Belding (7) 5 20/4-111 LE CRET (NOR) (2) (20) (5-1) P Resourced 0 Greed 13 11 7 Mis M Americage 6 24/3233 MITTINGER (10) (0) (4m T Problem) (10 P Problem) 15 11 6 Dir P Problem (7) 7 F1223P DEFPENDABLE (46) (6 on Sorrel Mrs 1 Records 6 11 3 Mis J Debber (7) 6 P47-54 (9ALS TENSFOR (7) (also show) Master) 1M Bracke (6 11 13 Mis J Debber (7) 10 6233-5 GREEN WALK (48) (C Ozmech R Rows 9 10 10 Mis M Daty (7) 11 15/43-0 EMBLEY SULY (48) (C Ozmech R Rows 9 10 10 Mis M Romate (7) 12 334-233 RUMAE SUEJ (65) (67) (C Owne) J King 9 10 3 Jin M Debber (8) 13 4-552 (COOL CHARACTER (68) (44) Elicol (8 Butter 6 10 0 Mis J Julius (7) 14 433-P34 MEMOSE DANCER (61) (5) (Maryes to Record Permesho) R Budder 7 10 0 Mis R Belling (7) 15 (POOL TOP MISS (226) (4 S Rom) R Romate 7 10 0 Mis R Thomston (7) 16 (POOL TOP MISS (226) (4 S Rom) R Romate 7 10 0 Mis R Thomston (7) 17 (900) VERNICAR (1,531) (Mis ET Snyth-Octournel J Old 6 10 0 Mis J Sanyth-Ostournel (7) 18 ETIMER 4-1 Rocco, 6-1 Le Clast Moir, Royal Square, 15-1 Rivagin Bien, 10-1 Cont D'Estraval, Mis-  BETIMER 4-1 Rocco, 6-1 Le Clast Moir, Royal Square, 15-1 Rivagin Bien, 10-1 Cont D'Estraval, Mis-
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### RACING RESULTS 3.90: 1. OUR SLIMBREDGE (B Powel) 12-2.90: 1. OUR SLIMBRIDGE (8 Powel) 12-12. First Top 6-1; 3. Lead Yocaffet 7-1; 4. Dereb 10-1. 20 ram. 11-2 fev Twoca A Night (6th). 5, 1½, (A Carroll). Totas: £16.60; £4.20, £2.40, £2.70, £3.20. DF: £38.80. CSF. £91.00. Trickst: £530.90. Tric: £355.10. Non

I FICESTER 1.00: 1. INCULCATE (J Osborne) 5-1: 2. Buster Bob 8-1: 3. Fantastic Fleet 12-1. 15: ran. 11-10 fav Boss's Bank (felf). 11, 5. (C Weedon). Tota: £8.10: £1.90. £2.50. £4.50. Dust Forecast: £20.20. Computer Straight Forecast: £44.43. Tro: £54.00. 1.30: 1. FRONTAGER (J Osborne) 13-2: 2. Mouse Bird 11-8 fav; 3. Keen To The Last 12-1. 13 ran. 6, 7: K. Egerton). Tota: £9.20: £4.10. £1.10. £1.70. DF: £6.70. CSF: £4.10. £1.10. £1.70. DF: £6.70. CSF: £4.10: £1.4 fav; 2. Küffany Cross 6-1: 3. Pennine Pride 11-2: 4. Inconclusive 33-1. 16 ran. 2v.; 15. (Forsier). Tota: £3.20, £2.00. £1.10. £1.30. DF: £11.70. CSF: £1.20. £1.10. £1.30. DF: £11.70. CSF: 1.00: 1 [NCULCATE & Osborne] 5-1: 2.

£1.20, £1.10, £13.20. DF: £11.70. CSF: £20.63. Treast: £82.30. Tre: £12.00. 2.30: 1 TOUCH SILVER (S CUTAN) 4-1; 2. Strike-A-Peace 3-1 fav; 3. Kirl's Rose 7-1. 12 ran. 1:5 15. (H Marners). Tota: £5.60; £2.80, £1.40, £5.70. DF: £10.30. CSF: £18.27. Treast: £79.07. Tro: £46.30. 3.00: 1 BEAUCHAMP GRACE NAY K Whe-lany 2-1 fer; 2. Pearl's Choice 10-1; 3. Too Sharp 11-2 8 ran. det, 6. (Mrs S Bramal). Tota: £2.80; £1.10, £1.70, £2.00. DF: £9.70.

£91.00. Treast: £530.90. Tre: £356.10. Non Runner: Country Store.
4.00: 1. ARSTHMETIC (W Marson; 9-2; 2. What's Your Story 4-1 fav; 3. Shallow River 12-1. 22 ran., ½, 6. Mrs. J Plumani. Tota: £5.10: £2.00, £2.50. £11.00. 07. £9.30. CSF: £24.44. Tre: £90.80. NR: Balleys Bridge. Jackpot: not won (pool of £111,085.48 carried toward to Falkestone today). Placepot: £185.30. Quadpot: £20.90. Place 6: £110.81. Place 8: £23.17.

MARKET RASEN 1.40: 1. ALCIAN BLUE (P Niver) 11-2; 2. Hartcham Boy 8-13 fay; 3. Bullene Boy 3-1.8 gas. 24, 10. (M Hammond, Tain: £5.50; £1.10, £1.10, DF: \$3.70. CSF: £9.62. Trac: £1.40. Non Rumers: Cherry

Stone, Kindakpola. Stone, Kindelvold. 2.10: 1 TARA RAMBLER IP Carbony: 5-4 (av. 2. Singsby 5-1; 3. Speaker Westb-erill 5-1. 11 ran. 2., 25. (Mrss S Hell). Totac 52.30; 21.30, 23.30, 51.10. DF: 25.80, CSP: 2 AG: 1. CHIEF RAIDER (A.S. Smith) 7-4

2.40: 1. CHUSF RABBER (A S Smeth) 7-4 fax; 2. Artic Wingls 2-1: 3. Bendon Waster 7-1.8 sen. 5; hd. U Waster). Foto: 12.40; £1.10; £2.00; £3.70. DF: £3.00, CSF; £5.64, Tno: £9.20. NRs: Dissington Derie, Sothe.
3.10: 1. YES MAN (J F 7/16y) 11-8 fax; 2. Heavy Come 9-4; 3. Britannia Mails 20-1.5 sen. 1; 42, 2. (ASS H Kright). Total: £2.00; £1.10, £2.20. DF: £4.70, CSF; £4.87.
3.40: 1. MANDERSE U F Tibery 7-4 fax; 2. Boston Rover 2-1: 3. Zejim 2-1: 5 sen. 6, 6. (N Cafagrier). 70ter £2.70; £2.10, £1.50. DF: £4.80. CSF; £5.80. NRs: Astroja. Mo Ictro Do. Mo Ich Do. 4.10: 1. ALZIUU 34 Dayeri 11:2: 2. Simple Simon 6-4 far; 3. Falcon's Image 9-1. 15 pan. 1, 7. U FarGerath, Yoter £7,80; 52.20, 52.40, £1,80, DF: £20,80, CSF:

£15.33. Trio: £35.30, NFt Dark Orchard. ot: 56.90. One LINGFIELD 1.60: 1. EL VOLADOR (D Bass) 4-9 fav; 2. Northern Trial 20-1; 3. Terten Gem 4-1. 7 ran. 2. 4: "R O'S.Facty, Totas 51.20: 51.00, 512.20. DF: 515.30. CSF: 510.72: 2.20: 1. ROWLANDSONS CHARM CN Adams! 5-4 fav; 2. Matti Franchise 10-1;

3. Bells of HoBend 7-4. 9 ran. 34, 1. (G L Moore). Tota: £1.80; £1.00, £2.90, £1.10. Dual Forecast £7.00. CSF: £14.11. Trics 52.70. 2.50: 1. INHTIRIAA (N Carlese) 5-1; 2. Co-

leridge 11-4; 3. Senfleet 15-8 fax. 8 rad. 1-4, 10. (R ("S. Shvari), Tober £7-40; £1.50, £1.10, £1.10, DF: £4.50, CSF: £18.72. Tn-Cast £31.73. 3.20:1 MBSS CAROTTENE (M Beird) 10-3.20: 1. MSS CAROTTENE (M Bard) 10-1; 2. Senset Herborr 41; 3. Mystery Matthias 12-1. 12 rep. 11-4 for Balpare. ni. 2. (M Ryan), Tote: £9.30; £1.50, £1.70, £3.20. DF: £81.30, CSP: £53.17. Treast: £45.82. Tric £138.50 (per won, pool of £158.02 to Follestone 2.20 totay). 3.50: 1. KDNS OF TUNES (J Quirn) 12-1; \$ About the property of the prop

2. Alexandram 6-1: 3. Access Adventurer 3-1 fav. 14 ran. V., hd. U Sneshan). Tota: £22.70; £5.70, £3.40, £2.60. DF: £38.70. CSF: £84.30. Treast £258.36. Trice £251.50. 4,20: 1. KING PARROT (Arnes Cook) 4 1: 3. Debival: 6-1; 3. Noth ren. 11-4 fev Jasem (40), V., S. (Lord Hurz-ingdon). Totas £5.90; £1.70, £2.30, £3.50. DF: £21.50. CSF: £28.60, Tricast. £287.45.

Tro: £139.70.
Placepot: £136.80. Quadrot: £88.5
Place S; £39.66. Place 5: £28.18. of 5136.80. Quadrott FRR 40

### WOLVERHAMPTON -HYPERION

2.00 Rizal 2.30 Berge 3.00 Snake Plissken 3.30 Scenicris 4.00 Wahem 4.30 Lord Sky GOING: Standard. STALLS: 77 & 1m6f - outside; remainder - insir DRAW ADVANTAGE: http://from.0f.to.lim.4L

■ Pibresand, left-hand, oval course.
■ Course is north of town on A449. ADMISSION: Entrance £6; additional £10 for entance to Viewing Restaurans; additional £15.90 for most. GAR PARK: free. HINKERED FIRST TIME: Acquittal (4.00), Shahik (viscred, 2.30),

Fraise da Est (visored, 4,00).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Distand Dynasty (4,30) has been sen! 2 Pearce from Limpsüeld, Surrey. 2.00 HADDOCK MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,450 added 6f 

FREMOST (40) Sir Mark Prescott 3 8 8. HESHLAND FANN (14) 8 McMeton 3 83 ... I. No. OWNEY FOLLY R Hole ishead 3 83 \_ \_N Carl 12 0-0 RADARDE SENADY (16) N Extraoler 3 8 3 ... Beambill (7) 6
13 0-0 ROWANE (14) A Bailey 3 8 3 ... D Weight (3) 12
- 13 declared BETTENE: 9-4 Facuscust, 3-1 Democrate Pair Time, 5-1 (Mail, 10-1 Giftion, 22-1 Highland Form, Eben None, 14-1 others

2.30 MACKEREL CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £4,450 added 7f

5550-13 SENSE OF PRIORITY (12) (C) (D) (SF) D Nichols 7 88. 06500-0 (ATE IS PRESIDUS (12) R Holinshead 4 8 7 .... M Wildows 11 

3.00 SALMON HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,450 added 1m 1f 79yds 

3P-F600 SAGARO BELLE (8) A Crow 10 11 0 P Wagents OP WITH DECISION (13) N Lamperd 7 11 0 Any Londs (3) - 13 declared -BETTING: 9-4 Call The Shots, 3-1 Co Silly, 8-1 Flech's Gem, 8-1 Dah man, 12-1 Villake Brief, 15-1 Oylei Rher, Sagaro Bolle, 20-1 others 3.10 CURLING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 2m 1f 4P-0954 NORTH PRIDE (40) M Barren 11 10 1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B Harding (3) 35-2335 CIRCULATION (29) (D) D McCam 10 10 1 \_\_\_\_\_\_ D Welch (5) Minimum weight; 10sz, True handling weighes; Macconachie Set JOB, Bad Trade Set Sia, Full Shilling Set Tib, Doubrd Hat Set Sh. BETTING: 7-2 Brisn's Dollght, Flash Of Realin, 6-1 Bidopdala, 7-1 Cir-chiffon, 8-1 Binaconachia, Tresides; 10-1 Doubrd Hat, 12-1 others

2.40 WINTER SPORTS MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 3m 3f

406-U04 BUSY BOY (20) D Lamb 8 11 5 A Memoris (7)
QP033-4 CALL THE SHOTE (60) J Wads 7 11 5 A James
OOP-P CHARILET TRUMPER (1,006) W McKerwin 8 11 5.6 Cabill (7)

501036 DALUSMAN (32) J Britett 8 11 5...

STONEGRAVE AGGREGATES SELLING 1.40 STONEGRAVE ABOUTEDAY (CLASS G) £2,600 3.40 ACROPOLA HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 3m 3f 110yds 

4.10 SKI-ING MARES NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,200 added 2m 1f 110yds prompted Sch.

BETTING: 6-1 Norhad Card, 6-1 Wild Rome Of York, 7-1 Octobrome, Vis-tage Satisfager, 8-1 Separatoo, Houses Rand, 10-1 Linksky Order, 12-1 Rove De Valou, 14-1 others

2.10 NORTHERN ELECTRIC CHARITY NOVICE HURDLE RACE) (CLASS E) (DIV II) £3,200 

# - 13 declared -- 13 declared -Minimum weight: 7st 1:01b. The handloop weight: Snake Pitshen 7st 6lb. BEFIDNE 4-1 Mingle Bay, 8-1 Komerayer beneer, 7-1 Males A Nota, Hittab., Kintuye, 8-1 High Premium, 10-1 Stanke Pitseken, 12-1 others.

3.30 TROUT HANDICAP (CLASS C) E8.200 added 3YO 1m 100yds = 5 cocares = -BETANIX 4-1 Chien Castle, 9-2 Domoor, 5-1 Victim Of Love, 11-2 La Sport, 6-1 Theutre Magic, 15-2 Scaniorie, 9-1 Ludy Dignity, 12-1 others

4.00 BREAM SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) £4,500 addied 1m 6f 166yds 005200- CASTLE SECRET (65) D Burchet 10 93 "Deam McK 3656-35 DUSGAN (8) P Bers 8 6 3 "D Sweet 42204-3 EL ROD (12) (87) M Gyardo 8 8 3 "L Ch 401240- STEWES WORDOW (54) M Ryan 8 9 3 "E B 00220-6 WHHEN (13) C Britain 6 6 3. 400005- HELL FARM MATTE (43) W Bristourie 5 8 12 .... R Cochrane 5 0-0 FRAISE DU ROI (11) Lord Huntington 4 88 .

- 12 declared -BETTING: 7-2 El Nido, 6-1 Busheitr, Fraise Do Roi, 7-1 Stevie's Wonds 8-1 Foots Of Pride, Acquittal, Walness, 10-1 HB Farm Katle, 12-1 othe A 20 LADBROKE SERIES HANDICAP (QUALI-

FIER) (CLASS D) £5,450 added 5f		
1	1000000-	CRISTAL LOOP (43) (C) (D) A Batey 4 10 D D Wright (3) 4
2		LORD SKY (14) (CD) A Bailey 5 9 12
3	520230-	KALAR (41) (D) D Chapman 7 6 10
4	020423-	(CD) R Hollinshear 5 8 8
5	1320-24	CHADITELL HALL (S.Q. (CD) (BF) S BOWING 5 6 7
_		C Teache (5) 8
6		C Tengon (5) 8 FEXTHERSTONE LANE (14) (D) Mas L Social 5 8 3 Does McCower 5
7	0005-05	DISTANT DYNASTY (13) (C) (D) 8 Peace 8 6 D. J. Ashley (7) 20
8		SOUTHERN DOMINION (37) (CD) M Joroston 4 6 D
8	6113-12	CHEEKY CHAPPY (IA) (CD) (BP) () Chapman 5 6 D
10	06040-2	THE INSTITUTE BOY (21) (IX) Miss J Cross 6 8 7 N Kennedy 11
11	30001-0	BAJAN FRONTER (14) (CO) F Lee 4 8N Carisie 1 - 11 declared -

### Cricket England's beaten cricketers arrived at Heathrow yesterday un-able to shake off that losing feeling—their haggage on their return flight from Johannesburg had gooe missing. The container carrying the personal luggage of Mike Atherton's side had been directed to the wrong terminal and it meant a two and a quarter hour holdup before the bags were returned to their correct destination. After a 12-hour journey be-

ginning in Port Elizabeth, it was hardly the end to the tour that England's squad needed.

flight."
England lost the five-match

emerging through customs was a man dressed as a rabbit - Live TV's "News Bunny" giving him

starts oo 14 Fehruary. England cricketer who returned

problems that have dogged his career since it took off spectacularly in Australia last win-

stress fracture which cut short his Australian tour, were followed by a hamstring injury in South Africa which cost him the chance of playing in the last two Tests of the series.

Australia World Cup squad

### Cairns hits century off 96 balls

Chris Cairns hit one of the most spectacular of Test centuries yesterday as New Zealand reached 441 for 5 declared, setting Zimbabwe 367 to win the second Test at Eden Park, Anckland.

on the same ground in 1933. Cairns' first Test hundred came off 86 halls, the second

fastest by a New Zealander after Bruce Taylor's 83-ball effort against the West Indies in 1969. Earlier Craig Spearman scored his maideo Test century as he and Roger Twose added (Fourth day; New Zealand won loss) NEW ZEALAND - First innings 251 (S P Reming 84, C L Carms 57)

J I	ZMEMBME-First landings 326 (D L Houghton 10)
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•	NEW ZEALAND - Second lunings
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	COMMINE COURT OF 1-110-1, DAG 1005 13-4
	41-1: B Strang 27-8-64-0; Whittali 13-4-40
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	Flower 5-0-20-0.
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	France And and a

**★**THE INDEPENDENT **Horse Racing** Results 8839 - 111 171 Commentary 0839 - 111 175



FACE TO FACE: Newcastle's former England hero will be back on centre stage in the Pilkington Cup on Saturday. Ian Stafford met him

# Andrew takes another ride on the rollercoaster

f 1995 will go down in histo-ry as Will Carling's annus horribilis, what then of Roh Andrew's last 12 months? At least the England captain's year was, after the Grand Slam, a Consistently horrendous time. On the other hand Andrew's status turned from that of near deity to one of traitor and poacher. kicked out of his club, forced to quit his country, and was seen by many as the principal reason for England's demise.

As rollercoaster rides go. this probably beats the main attraction on Blackpool's Golden Mile by some distance.

The man in question can now be found, suited and hespectacled, at the neat, new home of Newcastle RUFC, where Andrew's future lies. He hopes, both for the sake of his family, who have now moved up north with him, and from his own career viewpoint, that the upheaval is now over. Somehow, as he prepares for his biggest day at Newcastle so far, the visit of Harlequins to Kingston Park this Saturday in the Pilk-

ington Cup, he dnuhts it. The new director of rugby for Newcastle, courtesy of Sir John Hall's latest vision, still finds the past eight months difficult to believe. It began, of course, with a moment uf rugby drama he is never likely to forget - the

"It's as good as anything I've experienced in the game and, in terms of a split-second, has to be the higgest moment." Andrew says, referring to his lastgasp effort to undo Australia in the World Cup quarter-finals last summer, "The kick hasn't been blemished by our later results, probably because it was the abiding memory of success for England fans, and also hecause we heat the Aussies which, in any sport, is especial-

England until 1 returned home, but just about everyone I've met can remember where they were, and what they were doing as the

ball sailed through the posts." It may not have been quite as momentous as the assassination of JFK, hut you know what be means. So, Andrew returned to his job as a chartered surveyor in his central London nffices,

'About everyone I've met can remember where they were when the ball sailed through the posts'

and life at home in Pinner. As for the rugby, despite the public mauling from New Zealand, and the couldn't-care-less third place play-off defeat against France, Andrew intended to prolong his international career into an amazing 11th year.

"I didn't want to retire," he "My last chance at the World Cup had gone, but I wanted to redirect my energy and play a part in looking at the game and taking it on. The England team felt we were beginning to get there in our games against Canada and Romania, but we re-verted in the Five Nations, mainly because, when it's windy, raining and muddy in Dublin, you have to grind out a win."

Andrew therefore reported for the England squad sessions, unaware of the turmoil about to hit No 1. him. It began with a phone call.

"Freddie Fletcher, one of the directors, called from Newcastle Football Club the day after Sir John Hall had ly sweet for the English.

"I didn't get a real feel for rugby club. I had a good idea

about, and went to see them the

The package Hall offered Andrew - a long-term, highly paid contract, a playing and administrative role, and a dream and a vision which Andrew could turn into reality - was clearly too good to turn down. The Newcastle revolution began, and so, tno, did Andrew's problems, beginning with his club, Wasps. "The problems were caused

by the archaic, 120-day rule system which, until recently, the game maintained," he explains.
"Without it, I could have joined Newcastle the day I signed for them, and began my work in attracting players to the club. "Instead, I had to wait three

months. Wasps knew I was the director of rugby, and they knew it meant that I would be looking to recruit, but they wanted me to keep on playing for them. It was the club's decision. There was nothing stopping them from saying: 'Off you go'." With Newcastle at the foot of

the Second Division and, before the powers-that-be withdrew relegation this season, facing the drop, Andrew then went into action, first by signing his teammates, Nick Popplewell and Steve Bates, and then, crucially, by persuading his friend and the Wasps captain, Dean Ryan, to be his right-hand man at Newcastle.

The north London club, angered hy what they saw as poaching, kicked both Andrew and Ryan out, in what turned into a very public spat. Andrew, the hero of the summer, had suddenly become public enemy

"First, I didn't poach anyone," Andrew said, beginning his defence. "I could have contacted anyone I wanted to, whether I played for Wasps or not. I knew from the moment I signed that I wanted Bates and Ryan. I knew



Wasps didn't really have a case. "Popplewell had gone back to Dublin and Wasps had already said they didn't want to play

him, until he signed for me. Bates had told Wasps he wasn't going to play for them next sea-son well before I came in for him, I wasn't worried about those two, but the issue over Ryan was the straw that hroke the camel's back. "The stupid aspect of this is

that recruiting's been going on for 10 years. I know, because I played a part in bringing Pop-plewell and Norm Hadley to Wasps. I was just being open about it with Newcastle. A lot of people in glass houses started to throw stones at me as a result, but have you noticed how

it would cause trouble, but they're all coming out of the night, and then we were asked closet now?"

Despite his attempts to remain diplomatic, even Andrew has to admit that he is bitter about the way Wasps treated himself and Ryan.

"I don't think they handled the situation too well," is his verdict. "The club could have come out of the whole affair a great deal better than they did. Dean and I have loyally served Wasps for a long time. I would argue that we have put as much into the club as any player in its history. Dean was making a long-term career move. I had the right to offer him that, and he had the right to accept it.

"We were told that they were baving an executive meeting to discuss us on the Wednesday don't continue playing for us af-

ter Saturday.' But they didn't. to turn up the following night Their actions were all down to at the club, hut not to do any emotion."

A day later Andrew, realising that without competitive rugby he would be unable to fulfil his responsibilities as standoff, announced his retirement from international rugby. Far from sparking off pleas to stay, the decision merely accelerat-ed the anti-Andrew brigade, already strengthened by Jeremy Guscott's criticisms in his au-

tobiography.
Never mind the drop goal, you're doing this. We accept your decision, thank you for all the service you've given us, and wish you well for the future. Andrew was the reason why England could never consis-Play against Leicester, and tently beat the southern hemiwe'll make it your farewell sphere countries. He lacked game. But we feel it's in the best vision, speed, and the ability to create, from his pivotal position, the expansive game that Jack

Rowell, the players, (notably Mike Catt and Smart Barnes, who voiced their opinions publicly) and the country wanted. In short, thank goodness he's

"Actually, I didn't think that debate was worse than the other times throughout my 10 years with England, but maybe I've become immune to it. I wasn't entirely surprised by the criticism from the players. I think that kind of thing will happen more and more as the game becomes more professional. Nor was I hurt by it. A few years ago I'll admit that it would have really stung me, but now it's my view that making such statements says a lot more about the people who say them than about the person they're

So much for Messrs Guscott, Catt and Barnes, then. But what about this expansive game we all yearn for? "This is where we're getting our knickers in a twist. Don't forget that the South Africans beat the All Blacks in the World Cup final by playing an English-type game. I mean, what the hell does throwing the ball around mean?

"I'm afraid that Barbarian. seven-a-side rugby does not exist in competitive matches.
What we should be moving towards is a dynamic, powerincludes all 15 members of the team. There is a crucial difference here. We must play to our strengths, and that means combining power and skill to keep the ball in hand."

The future looks as difficult to predict as his recent past. The goals for Newcastle are clear enough: promotion next season to the First Division, fullowed by a top four place and European competition, followed by complete and total domination of the universe.

But Andrew himself? "I'll play for as long as I can, until Bates and Ryan tell me other-

And has he really, definitely, completely closed the door on England for good? A long pause follows, then a considered reply. "I just don't know," he fi-nally says. "I'm still the player I was in the World Cup, once I've regained match fitness, but they may not want to consider me any more, I may not want to go back. I don't know."

His answer is honest and, when the crunch comes, it may well cause a genuine dilemina for him. "We'll have to see," he concludes, rushing off to a meeting. Well now, this might

# Duestions of Sport



### £40,000 to be won

Today we are giving you another sporting chance of an instant win. In Saturday's paper, there was a Questions Of Sport multi-choice scratch card which, if you answer three sporting questions correctly, gives you the chance of an instant cash prize from £1 to £1,000.

You don't have to be an obsessive fan to play - a good general sporting knowledge should suffice. But remember, you only get one chance to answer each question, so if you are in any doubt, check it out. The card contains eight games so you can play daily through to Friday 26

As well as the daily instant cash prizes there is a weekly accumulator prize of £5,000 to be won.

# Wales overlook reluctant Davies

STEVE BALE

Whatever Welsh public opinion may feel, Jonathan Davies has been making it clear that he is reluctant to be considered the savionr of Welsh rugby and may therefore have hreathed a sigh of relief at his omission from the Wales Five Nations squad named vesterday. Selection to play England at Twickenham on Saturday week will follow next

Tuesday. Kevin Bowring, the Wales coach, had been expected to come up with a 32-strong party hut once he had restricted it to 24 there was no place for Davies, whether at outside-half or centre. Instead Neil Jenkins was included along with the new outside-half. Arwel Thomas. doubts over Jenkins's fitness squad," Bowring said. That

providing Davies's one possible way back in.

training with the team. When

we got there we were handed a

press statement announcing

our departure from Wasps, just

"We thought we were going

to play against Leicester that Saturday. They could have said

to us that Thursday night: Look guys, we understand why

half an hour before it was re-

As Davies, 32, has been taken aback by the perception of him as some sort of messiah since his return from rugby league, he may well be hoping Jenkins comes through. But the broken collar-bone which permitted Thomas's debut in last week's Italian match is still not healed and, having already withdrawn from Pontypridd's visit to Swansea last night, he is also doubtful for his club's fixture against New Sonth Wales

on Saturday. In the meantime Jenkins will be examined when the squad get together on Thursday, and if necessary will be given leave from the training weekend in Tenby, Pembrokeshire, to face NSW. If Neil isn't fit we'll bring someone else into the

someone may or may not be Davies, since there is an impressive younger alternative available in the 19-year-old Lee

Jarvis, who has been playing for Pontypridd in Jenkins's absence. Davies's drawhack, quite apart from being starved of the ball by his Cardiff colleagues, is a too-obvious lack of rugby: just half-a-dozen games for Cardiff and not all of them at stand-off, where Wales would would prefer him to play, since he forsook Warrington and came home. "We looked at a large number of players and Jonathan was certainly one of

them," Bowring said. "We'd like to see him play more, and we know he'd like to play more at fly-half. We picked on current, rather than past, form and although we know he is a world-class player he still needs more time to adjust.

Bowring has recalled as many as possible of the injured absentees from the fraught victory over Italy, meaning Gareth Thomas and more importantly Nigel Davies could return to the centre, though having given a new midfield triangle a first chance against Italy, it would be perverse to discard them already, even against England. On the other hand, had Bowring seen Arwel Thomas play for Bristol against NSW on Monday Jonathan Davies's restoration would surely have been complete already.

COMPLETE AN ANTIONS' Chromoloushipt: Pull-back: J Thomas (Linnelli), Winger S Hill (Cartifi), I Danies (Linnelli), Winger S Hill (Cartifi), I Danies (Handli), L Davies (Neath), & Thomas (Edigent), M Whitfe (Linnelli); Outside-halvous M Jonidos (Portigonto), & Thomas (Pristot); Scrum-halves: R Howley (Bridgent)

### **HOW TO PLAY**

Today we are playing the section of the card dated Wednesday 24 January. Below are three sporting questions, each with three possible answers coded as A, B and C. Scratch off your answer to Question Sixteen either A,B or C in the Q16 column then repeat for Q17 and Q18.

THE QUESTIONS Q16 Which of the following will not be featured in the 1996 Olympic Games? A: Baseball B: Beach volleyball

Q17 Who has scored the most points in international rugby union? A: Michael Lynagh

C: Bungee jumping

R: Grant Fox

C: Sergi Bruguera

C: Gavin Hastings Q18 Who defeated Andre Agassi in the 1990 French Open final?

Javier Sanchez R: Andres Gomez

**EMPORTANT** Scratch off ONE letter only for each

f you reveal three identical cash amounts on any one game section on any one day, you win that amount. After you have played the last game on your card, total the cash amounts you have revealed. If your total is £5,000 you win or share the £5,000 accumulator prize. You could also win today's instant prize of £100 by revealing an asterisk.

IF you have revealed three identical cash amounts of £5 or under, DO NOT PHONE. Take the claim coupon OR a piece of plain paper with your name and address on it PLUS tha relevant section of the card to one of the newsagents listed below. For prizes over £5, phone 01254 683666 (Irish Republic 0044 1254 683666) between 10.30am and 4pm

Participating newsagents: WH Smith, John Menzies, Forbuoys, Martins/RS McColl.Dillons, Gibbs, Macs. Supercies, United News Shops, Star News, K Balfour, Eason, GT News, Paperchain - Village Store, Paper

IF you have any difficulty redeeming your card and coupon for a prize send both to: Independent Questions Of Sport claims, PO Box 60, Burnley, BB10 1SH.

**RULES AS PREVIOUSLY** PUBLISHED

SOME OF OUR WINNERS SO FAR: Christine Marsden

form Burnley, Lancs - £1000 Martin Boileau from Buckingham - £500 Mark Webber from Weatherby, Leeds - £100 Rhoda Coates from Southampton, Hants - £100 Carlo Caruso from London - £100 Kenneth Bulcock from Hurdsfield, Macclesfield · £25

Frederick Shipley from Sheffield • £10

### **CLAIM COUPON**

Wednesday 24 January 1996 To claim prizes up to £5

Take this coupon to any of the participating Newsagents listed who will give you your prize instantly.

To the Newsagent: Please check the card is correct and give the reader the value of their prize. Send this coupon or details supplied on plain paper together with the winning card to your head office for full redemption.

### QUESTIONS OF SPORT

DO NOT PHONE

### Disgusted Cooper gives up commentating

The much-loved former British and European heavyweight champion, Henry Cooper, is ng up his radio microphone and not doing any more ringside commentaries on the fight game because the modern-day razzmatazz and aggressive hype have turned him off the sport which made him a national bero.

Cooper, among other observations on 1990s boxing, particularly dislikes the way "Prince" Nazeem Hamed "humiliates and taunts his opponents", but Hamed's manager, Brendan Inele, believes that Cooper's tra-

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of football coaches who have lost their jobs so far during the African Nations Cup in South Africa Burkina Faso dismissed Idrissa Tracre and Mozambique sacked Rui Cacador, Both teams lost their opening two matches.

ditionalist views on boxing are out of date. Ingle said yesterday:
"Muhammad Ali was my hero
"Muhammad Ali was my hero and Hamed's hero, and started all this back in the 1960s and different game" these days, but pulled boxing off the floor.

"Henry should think himself does not like what be sees. fortunate that be was around in that era and became famous with the left hook that put Ali down - and 'Naz' and Chris Eubank have brought it all back in this country in the last few years.

"Frank Warren and Sky have also brought all the razzmatazz back and the crowds love it. Time has moved on and, if you don't move yourself, you get left behind. What 'Naz' has provided is needed in the sport.

ry Packer did for cricket." Cooper also believes it is a

"It takes 45-50 minutes to get two fighters in the ring before they start, you've got smoke, yon've got fireworks, laser beams, singers, bands and these entourages of 10 to 15 people,"

"And I don't like fighters having a go at each other before a fight, having scraps outside the ring, calling each other names, saying things

that talk is crazy. "It's a rough, tough husiness, but I didn't know of any boxer when I fought who wanted to seriously injure another

boxer. I'm not commentating any more but I'll still go to watch it and retain an interest." Richie Woodhall can prepare for a midsummer World Boxing Council middleweight title fight against the Texan bolder, Quincy Taylor. The WBC have ordered Taylor to put his title on the line against Woodhall within 90 days of a voluntary defence against the Washington southpaw Keith Holmes, scheduled

like: 'I'm going to push your to take place in March. WEEKEND FIXTURES AND POOLS FORECAST

FA Cup fourth round ton v Creve-----Bamsley or Oldfra 3 Sources pour y Orders
10 Selvicion y Bernsley or Oldriam X
11 West Harm & Grinsley
Also simpling (sect on cooponal) Prestor to Pour
Voter, Notingham Forest y Oxford Ust, Tottonfrem
Wiches, Sundowy, Styffield, Ust y Asian y Mille (4.0),
EMISSI ERICH INSURVICE (Enriche Franc Diffelers
Net on cooponac Chylani Palace y Lucon; Millwell
y Portsmootin; Waddord y Derby,

Third Division

Second Division

27 Bath City v Kiddeminster 28 Bromsgrove v Morecembe 29 Degenhern v Runcom 30 Dover v Atrinchem

CM Verryball Confer

44 Hayes v Sutton (Itd .... 45 Hitchin v Yeading...... UniBond Premier Division 48 Bishop Auddend v Bamber Bridge 47 Charley v Accornation Stanley ent's Scottish Cup Ciydebank v Stirit Dumbarton v Airdi 

0 **3 0** 

JEVIUD WID.

# Rubin's win breaks set of records

Tennis

Chanda Rubin, the 19-year-old American, knocked out the third seed. Arantza Sanchez Vicario, in a marathon match at the Australian Open yester-day, winning 16-14 in the final set on her sixth match point.

At 3hr 33min it was the tongest women's match in the history of the Australian Open and also broke the Open record for the most games in a set and the most games in a women's match - 48. It was the sixth longest women's match recorded in the Open era.

In the first Grand Slam semifinal of her career Ruhin, seeded 13th, will meet Monica Seles for the first time after the No 1 seed demolished the 18-year-old

Croatian Iva Majoli 6-1, 6-2 in the yesterday's first quarter-final. Seles, bidding for her first Grand Slam title since returning to tennis after her stabbing in April 1993, damaged a ten-don above her ankle during the second set and there are worries about her fitness.

The 22-year-old joint world No I, favourite to win her ninth Grand Slam title in the absence of Steffi Graf, reeled off nine straight games to take the first set in 22 minutes and raced to a 3-0 lead in the second. But in the fourth game. Seles said she felt a tendon pull above the right ankle. "It made it hard when you push off," she said,

Rubin, who will be 20 next month, finally disposed of Sanchez Vicario 6-4, 2-6, 16-14 with a rasping volley after earlier conceding a match point at 14-13 on the Spaniard's service when a deep drive from her opponent looked suspiciously

Rubin, who had earlier ter slip two match points at 5-4 on Sanchez Vicario's service, did not let her head drop. "I just wanted to stay in there and keep fighting," Ruhin said. "I wanted to keep fighting no matter how long it took."

An exhausted Ruhin, who won a marathon 3hr 45min maich against Patricia Hy-Boulais at Wimbledon last year, said it had been her most satisfying victory. "It feels great to be in the semi-finals of a Grand Slam. It's huge," she said. Sanchez Vicario, a finalist at

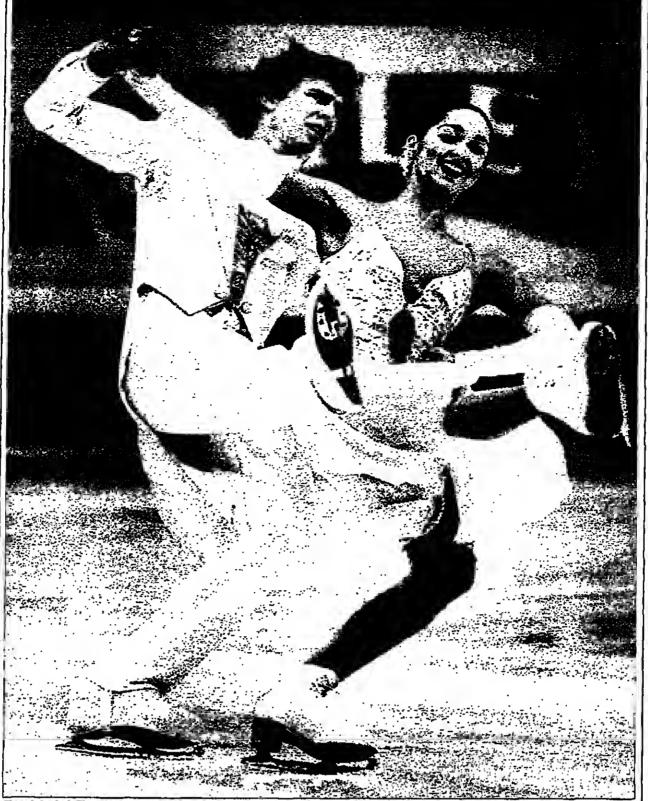
the last two Australian Opens, was not disappointed - more elated by the quality of the tennis in the 2hr 22min third set. "It's hard that one of us had to lose, hut 1 am happy with myself, I played a great match and

I gave everything," she said.
The crowd appreciated the tennis, particularly Rubin's door-die approach with her booming forehands either winning points or going well wide. She made 96 unforced errors against Sanchez Vicario's 48.

In today's two remaining women's quarter-finals, Germany's eighth-seeded Anke Hu-her plays the world No 2 Conchita Martinez, while the unseeded Swiss prodigy Marti-na Hingis meets the 16th seed, South Africa's Amanda Coetzer,

The epic encounter between Rubin and Sanchez Vicario delaved the showniece meeting between the men's second seed, Andre Agassi, and his fellow American Jim Courier, which was finally delayed until today by rain with the No 8 seed leading 5-4 in the first set.

Michael Chang earlier became the first man to reach the men's semi-finals by beating The crowd booed loudly hut 6-0, 6-2, 6-4 in 1hr 16min. Mikael Tillstrom, of Sweden,



Russia's Anjelika Krylova and Oleg Ovslannikov smile their way though the compulsories of the ice dance at the European Figure Skating Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, yesterday. The pair are in second place

# Tries to be given trial by television

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Video replays for touch-and-go decisions, a team in South Wales this year and a firm boot towards obtivion for underachievers are among the matters placed on the game's agenda by the weekend conference of its board of directors.

The board has decided to rec-

ommend that an extra referee, with access to slow-motion replays like his cricket equivalent, will rule on the legitimacy of doubtful tries in televised Super League matches.

Large screens at grounds will show the evidence to crowds at the same time, although the current system of ingoal judges will apply at matches that are not on live television. "The difference with cricket is that our referees are right behind this," said Greg McCallum, director of referees.

The Welsh team manager, Mike Nicholas, is to be given the opportunity to show that he can have a South Wales side ready to enter the Second Division at the end of March. The team would be likely to be based at Aberavon.

We would question whether Mike could put together a big enough squad of players in that time." said the League's chief executive, Maurice Lindsay, "It has all come a little quicker than we thought."

Much the same applies to Northampton's hopes of entering the League. "I doubt whether it could be done in time for the 1996 season, but we will give them every encouragement and help," Lindsay said.

Blackpool, applying for readmission after three years in the wilderness, have been given more money and told that they must improve their standards before they will be considered. Their director of football, Tom Mather, said: "This will be the death knell of the club."

The sides occupying the bot-tom three places in the Second Division have been warned that they could be demoted unless they raise their game. Highfield, Doncaster and Chorley have all been placed on warning, although they will have a chance to defend their records at the meeting of the Rugby League Council next month.

There will be more general

concern about Lindsay's proposal that the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, the code's oldest compention should be played pre-season. That will obviously downgrade the event, but Lind-say said that the alternative of leaving "windows" for its rounds during the normal season had been rejected because it would detract from Super League. The future of the Regal Tropby is even more uncertain, with the dreaded words "midweek competition" mentioned.

The overseas quota is to be tidied up, with clubs allowed five foreign players - regardless of their origins - but having to pay into a development fund if they sign more than three. Existing contracts and overseas imports who have been here for five years will not be affected.

Phil Larder and Phil Lowe are to continue as international coach and manager, although Larder will be assisted by Sheffield's Gary Hetherington and by the Welsh national coach, Clive Griffiths. While that management team is in the Antipodes in October, an Oceania team drawn from Fiji, Ton-Western Samoa and the Cook Islands will tour Britain.

Barla, the governing body of the amateur game, has broken off unification talks with the league, complaining of "back door" approaches to amateur

# **Hodges balances Wales**

Football

i inte

Bobby Gould completed his preparations for tonight's friendly against Italy knowing all the pressure is on his counter-

gives Sheffield United's Glyn Hodges his first international start in almost four years, takes his side to Terni, in Umhria, knowing that Sacchi and his team will suffer ferocious criticism unless they turn on the style.

"We've come here to win, just as Italy have." Gould said. "The difference is the immense pressure they're under. I've got a great deal of respect for Sacchi and what he's achieved and compared to him I've done nothing. But he's been challenged to go one better and that makes it really tough for him."

The return of Hodges, whose heing "surprised" at being last start was against Austria in Vicuna in April 1992, is among eight changes - mostly enforced - from the side which drew 1-1 in Albania in November.

Kit Symons, Chris Coleman The Welsh manager, who defence, although David Phillips could be asked to fill the sweeper role, allowing Gary Speed to take his favourite central midfield position. Strikers lan Rush and Mark Hughes are back together, and captain Barry Horne returns in midfield.

"We're missing Mark Pembridge, hut Glyn has an awesome left foot and will give us the halance we need on the left side," Gould said, "In international football, dead-ball situations are vitally important and Glyn is a great striker of the ball. Hodges, who made his debut way back in 1984, admitted to

named in the starting line-up, but said: "I never gave up hope. Even when I wasn't being picked by Mike Smith I was on the periphery and named in the standby squad and that always gave me a huzz because if me wasn't being ruled out."

Sacchi, who pairs Fabrizio Ravanelli of Juventus with Parma's Gianfranco Zola un front. expects an exacting match. "It is important for us as a side still learning and huilding towards next summer to play against a team like Wales," he said. "You know when you are playing against a British side there is no such thing as a friendly.

SUCH CHILD SS & INCHONY.

IRANT: Pensat; Formar (both Juvernust, Carboni
(Romal, Di Mettor (Lazo), Costacarta (Merri,
Apodioni (Parmal, Di Livie (Luvernus), Albertini
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Horas (Extentus, Caut, Hodges (Shell Vol.),
Risala (Jeopool), Rogites (Chiches), Speed

Lacetal.

### **Real Madrid dance to** the Iglesias tune

Coruña coach Arsenio Iglesias, two days after dismissing

Jorge Valdano. The Spanish champions have tallen behind in the league table recently, and Valdano, the former Argentinian international striker, was sacked on Sunday after the 2-1 home defeat to Real's struggling neighbours, Rayo Vallecano.

"A single word from Real Madrid was all 1 needed to immediately accept the offer," said Iglesias, who left Deportivo at the end of last season and has been working as a television commentator.

Sunday's defeat saw Real slip to eighth place, 16 points behind leaders Atletico Madrid. nitch and he was fired two

British experienced mixed forumes in the first round of the men's singles at

the South Korean Open in Seoul yes-terday. Darren Hall came through his opening match with an 18-14, 15-6 vic-

tory over Denmark's Jim Laugesen. But Peter Knowles bowed out, losing 15-8, 15-6 to Andrei Andropov of Russla.

NBA: Atlanta 105 Houston 98; Marris 96 San Unionen 89: Variotueer 100 Militarilee 82.

Billy Hardy will make the first defence of his European featherweight title against Michael Alidis on 14 February at Sunderland's Crowtree Leisure Cen-

tre. If Hardy wins this light he intends to challenge Naseem Hamed for his World Bozing Organisation title.

ZAMENANE WORLD OUP SQUAD: A Flower regot, E A Brandes, A D R Campbell, S G Danes, C N Suns, G W Flower, C Lock, H R Olangs, H H Steef, P A Steing, B Strang, S G Pearl, A C Weller, G J

Badminton

Basketball

Boxing

Real Madrid yesterday installed hours later, a mere seven the former Deportivo de La months after leading the side to the title.

"Arsenio will be the man to provide tranquillity and stability to the team at a difficult time." the Real Madrid pres dent, Lorenzo Sanz, said. The new man will take charge following tonight's league visit to Athletic Bilbao.

Valdano's 1982 World Cup team-mate, Ossie Ardiles, who flies out to Japan this week to take up the joh of coach at Shimizu S-Pulse, likened the sacking to his own dismissal as Spurs manager in 1994, saying that poor results had little to do with the matter. "It was because of the political problems in the cluh," he said, which is also a bit what happened to me. He Valdano was boosed off the won't have trouble finding

Greg Norman, the world No.1, may have to miss this week's Johnnie Walker Clas-sic in Singapore because of a chest in-fection. He is seeking medical advice.

NHL: Tempa Bay 4 Montreal 1; NY Rangers 3 Los Angales 1; Chicago 7 Ocases 3; Philadelphia 1 Fonds 1 tod; Pittsburg 7 Boston 8 tod; Colorado 4 NY Standers 3; Dallas B Varnouver 4.

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29 11 8 178 131 66

28 12 5 159 117 61

24 12 10 159 115 62

21 18 5 123 132 47

20 18 7 135 151 47

19 22 4 116 115 42

12 24 8 128 165 82

another top job."

ice hockey

PACIFIC DIVISION

SPORTING DIGEST

Bryan Gunn, the Norwich goalkeeper, completed the first stage of what he hopes will be a double celebration yesterday after his wife, Susan, gave birth to their first son.

Now the Scottish internasemi-finals of the Coca-Cola Cup in tonight's fifth round replay against Birmingham City at St Andrews.

The birth was particularly special as Gunn's first child, Francesca, died of leukaemia four years ago. The loss led him to him setting up the Bryan Gunn Appeal for Leukaemia Research, a charity that has now raised over £400,000.

Gunn was prepared to miss the cup tie to be at the birth of the latest addition to his family, but that would have been a major blow for Norwich.

The goalkeeper, who also has a daughter, missed most of last season with a broken ankle but has been the hero of the Coca-Cola Cup run this term.

Gunn ready to celebrate

He saved three spot kicks in a penalty shoot-out win at tional plans to wet the baby's Bolton in the last round and head by helping his side into the stopped a Jonathan Hunt half of the First Division, but Fry penalty when they held Birmingham to a 1-1 draw at Carrow Road two weeks ago. Gary Megson, the Norwich

manager, is still sweating, though, on the fitness of the winger Darren Eadie, who picked up a thigh injury in the 1-0 defeat by Luton on Saturday. Jeremy Goss, who replaced Eadie at half-time in that demoralising defeat, is standing by

Megson admitted yesterday: "If we play as we did against Luton then there is no point in us even turning up."

Switmenting
WORLD CUP MEETING (Shaffield, first day of
two) Men's famics 100m freestyles 1 S Brun
(Jern) 49.96secs; 2 D Londer (NZ) 50.01; 3 M
Foster (Day of Cartiff) 50.04, 400m freestyles
1 D Londer (NZ) 345.55; 2 P Painter (CD) of Lincoln) 345.85; 3 P Bawster (CD) of Bruningham)
355.92, 50m broantstrokes 1 Chiym Day (Chiresp 27.85; 2 D Makst, CZ; Rap) 28.09; 3 G Schrad
(US) 28.33, 200m broantstrokes 1 N GBrigtam (CD) of Bruningham) 215.63; 2 3 Moort

uss; zs.33. zs/0m breatstrolec 1 N Gibng-ham (Clty of Burningham) 2:15.15; 2 8 Moerk (Not 2:14.11; 3 N Bolga (Buth) 2:15.12.100m, madby: 1, J Slaviton (Fin) 53.78 (wh); 2 D Kalchev Buth 55.75; 3 M Midsewic (Croa) 56.24.400m madby: 1, J Slaviton (Fin) 4:18.33; 2 Questing Deng (Drim) 4:18.95; 3 C Myden (Can) 4:19.56. 100m; backstopher 1 N Willey (Barnet Constitution)

Birmingham have also been in a trough of poor form, Barry Fry, knows they must lift themselves to make sure of a semi-final meeting with cup

The Blues are still in the tor describes a miserable return of just nine points out of the last 30 and an FA Cup exit at the hands of Wolves as "relegation form". He said: 'This is a big week, with also a chance of reaching Wem-

Gary Poole, the full back, is set to return after a leg injury and that could mean Fry dispensing with Michael Johnson s sweeper. The midfielder Paul Tait, a substitute in Saturday's defeat at Ipswich, is pushing for a recall after shaking off a knee problem.

### **Humphreys beats the pain**

ice skating

Marika Humphreys needed two stitches in a deep gash on her right leg after she and Philip Askew practised their ice dance programme at the European Championships in Sofia yes-

The British champions were warming up for the samba when Humphreys sustained the injury from a Finnish skater's blade. But she still took to the ice for the competition, and the pair

were in 11th place after two compulsory dances.

The Olympic and world champions, Oksana Gritschuk and Evgeny Platov, took their expected lead. The Russian couple, who missed last year's event because Platov had a knee injury, won both the Westminster Waltz and the Silver Samba, even though the music for their second dance finished 10 seconds early. Another Russian pair, Anjelika Krylova and Oleg Ovsiannikov, were second.

### 'Abusive' Hill lands another ban

Anthony Hill, Australia's world No 8 player, has been hanned again. Earlier this month, he was suspended for three months and fined £1,400 for "unsportsmanlike conduct" at the World Open last October in

Cyprus.
On Tuesday, the World Squash Federation banned

country in team events until 1998 after incidents in a match with Pakistan's Mir Zaman Gul at the World Team Championships in Cairo in Novem-

Hill was charged with "physically and verbally abusing his opponent, verbally abusing the referee and showing dissent against his decisions, throwing his racket and generally bring-Hill, 28, from representing his ing the game into disrepute.

### Sievinen equals world best

Jani Sievinen produced his second short-course world record performance in just four days in the World Cup meet at Sheffield yesterday.

The world 200 metres medicy champion, who cut over a second off his own 400m medley record in Finland on Saturday, equalled his world best for the 100m

medley. The 21-year-old Finn stormed home in 53.78sec to equal the mark he set four years ago and also picked up a £1,000 bonus on offer for any world record in the World Cup series.

Britain's Mark Foster, with his eyes firmly on the Olympics. passed up the chance for another attack on his world 50m butterfly record. Instead he finished third in the 100m freestyle.

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### Australians go to World Cup

Cricket

Australian squad members yesterday accepted assurances about their safety and agreed to play in the World Cup in Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka, starting next month. Shane Warne threatened on Saturday to withdraw from the cup after receiving threatening letters over the Salim Malik bribery allegations.

> Waugh claimed that the former Pakistan captain had tried to bribe them during a tour in October 1994. Malik was cleared by an internal judicial inquiry. Michael Slater, the dashing opener, was preferred to Dean Jones, the veteran middle-order

Warne, Tim May and Mark

nalised Australia's 14-man SQUAD.

AUSTRALIA SQUAD (for World Cup, India, Paidhan and Sri Larks, 14 Feb-17 Mar); M Taylor (capt), I Healy twoe-capt, witl, M Bevan, O Ferrang, S. Law, S. Lee, C. McDermott, G. McGrath, R. Poncreg, P. Ferfiel, M. Stear, S. Warne, M. Waugh, S. Waugh.

hatsman, when selectors fi-

# FOOTISH FAW TROPH'S Seni-fluid draws Llanducing v Pro-dymaying Perhapinooch or Oswaczy Town v Hoover Scoria, Ties to be players Set 23 March at 2,30 UK UNING WOMEN'S FA CLIP South round draws Reason v Ansarack Huddenshald or Everoni v Liv-arpool Whitelmark v Iganech; Croydon v Dorocasta Bales, Res to be played Sun 18 February at 2.0. HORDAY'S LATE RESILESS: FA Carding pre-miserable; West Harri O March 10. 15 Humbro To-phy Rest-proad replayer Hyde Urd O March 0 Ocher extra dine, security replayer 1 (Guidely of Horne for Carding Bay or Admironary), Intia League Sec-TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football 7.30 unless state

eti stedium. Temit COCA-COLA CUP QUARTER-FINAL REPLAY Birmingham v Norwich (7.45) ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE PRST DIVISION Sundenleid v Grimpby (7.45) ..... WELL'S SCUTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION SECOND DIVISION

Stirling v Clyde
FA UNION TROPHY First round replay: Gazes-head v Kottermeiser Hames (7.45). mean v Nacoemerstar Hamers (7.45). FA CARLESERR VASE Fourth round second replays Seby • Traffard. BEAGER HOSES LEAGUE Southern Divisions Hexant v Claredon. LIMBORD LEAGUE First Division: Bracker; Park

LEVISON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division:
Scomming v Wishedt.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES (EAGUE First Division: Prescot v Bicssop North End.
LEAGUE OF WALES Abergstwich v Biber Valle (B. Ot: Consty v Portryrating (T.45).
BOYD SAIS LEAGUE OF RELAND Premier Division: Stratistics Stratistics of President Backdom v Stringhal Weld (T.0) (at President Backdom v Stringhal Weld (T.0) (at President Backdom v Stringhal Weld (T.0) (at Postphridge).
Second Division: Barrisley v Hall (T.0); Blackpool v Marsifield (T.0); Huddersfield v Presion (T.0); (Lenesser v York (T.0); Marchaelse Cayv Retreham (6.46); Medicistrugh v Coverny (T.0); Stringhal (T.0); Stringhal (T.0); Stringhal (T.0); Stringhal (E.45); Mygan v Shrevbuy (T.0).

AVON DISURANCE COMBINATION First Division of the Coverny (T.0); Stringhal (E.45); Mygan v Shrevbuy (T.0).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Divi-ator: Brighter Winsbledon (2.0); Crystal Palace Vision Air Ossent Harviet; Bristal Gry v Creat-ton Althory West Harviet; Bristal Gry v Creat-ton Althory West Harviet To Althory To

Birmingham City v Cheltenham (7.0) fat Sutton Coldfield; Boumemouth v Suansea City (2.0); Torquey v Plymouth Angle (7.0). Rugby Union TOUR MATCH: Newport v New South Wates (7.0). REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford University v Royal Ar Force (3.0).

CLLB MATCHES: Mossiey v Loughbo dents (7.30). **Basketball** 8.0 unless stated c.v uraes green LEAGUE: Newcaste Comes v Man-chester Garns, Leicester Refed v Thames Val-ley Tiges.

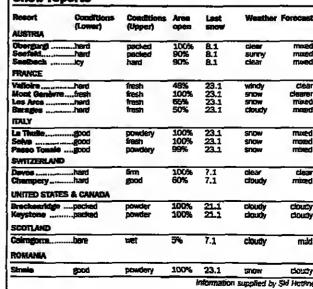
MATIONAL CUP Quarter-flusie: Crystal Palace v London Leopatis; Hemel Hemostead Royals v Simmigram Bullets.

Other sports BOWLS: Weish national singles finals (Lieneti). ice skating BURDIFAN CHAMPIONERPS (Sofie) Ice Garce (affer two compulsory dences) Lead-ing positions: 10 Grischus and E Platro (Rus) 0.8, 0.40x: 24 Nylose and 0 Oseannilov (Rus) 0.8, 3 M Aniesine and C Peizzen (Fr) 1.2. Select-ed: 21 M Humpings and P Astew (GB) 4.4.

Rugby Union

Rod Snow, the Canadian International, will miss Newport's game against New South Wales at Rodney Parade tonight with a hemstring injury. But his fellow-countrymen, Gareth Rees, is fit and former Cambridge Blue, Andy Arentsen, holds on to his place on the left wing. NEWFORT TEAM to New South Wales, tonight's 5 Demende, A Aventsen; G Rees, J Hembert, S Digan, A Peacock, S Conk, M Myfe, K Moseley, M Worlman, R Goodey (capt), C Brown. Replacements: O Smith, A Patrey, N Collent, D Thomss, I Johes, A Cartes.

medicy: 1 i Service (Fru 4:18.33; 2 Quresong Deng (Drim) 4:18.95; 3 C legister (Carl 4:18.56; 100to beactabelete: 1 it Wildy (Barmet Coptrisi) 54.28; 2 A Ruciscool (Clay of Berningham) 54.50; C Renaud (Carl 54.64; 50to betterfly: 1 if Ruppeth (Carl 54.64; 50to betterfly: 1 if Ruppeth (Ger) 24.53; 2 K Gatter (Fru) 24.73; 3 A Rupley (Dry of Steffield) 24.98; 200m better-8y; 1 K Galler (Fru) 1:58.36; 2 D Carr (Cdy of Steffield) 20.20; 2 D Welmen (Clay of Lesois) 2:00.288; Woonse's finalts: 50to financityte: 1 V Johannen (Nov) 25.85; 2 S Robyth (Clay of Lesois) 2:00.288; 3 V Susm (II) 26.07; 200m freestyle: 1 V Porner (Denvertsade) 2:00.68; 2 D Varnedy (Run) 2:00.14; 3 A Bernett (Novo Centron) 2:05.45; 800m freestyle: 1 i Delay (Nov) 2:05.50; 2 C Borgato (Dr 8:45.26; 3 D Rennedy (Carl) 8:47.01; 100m breaststroke: 1 i Meler (Novosy) 1:00.96; 2 M Hardmann (Cdy of Berningham) 1:10.29; 3 S Brownston (Clay of Berningham) 1:10.29; 3 S Brownston (Clay of Berningham) 1:10.25; 3 S Poro (Barnett Coptrollet: 1 L Steff (Lughborough Students); F Prietra (Sp) 29.92; 3 S Proc (Barnett Coptrollet: 29.96; 2 S Proc (Barnett Coptrollet: 29.96; 2 S Proc (Barnett Coptrollet: 29.95; 2 S Proc (Barnett Coptrollet: 29.95; 2 S Proc (Barnett Coptrollet: 29.95; 2 S Proc (Barnett Coptrollet: 29.96; 2 S Proc (Barnett C Nahlwe (US) 1:01.72, 1. Alphard (F) 1:01.72. Selectad: 49 G Bell (US) 1:04.23. Super glant; shloors standings: 1. Second 2:00ps; 2 Krauss 189; 3 Nus 1:80; 4 Nyberg 1:41; 5 Kroell 1:25; 6 Fattori 95. Meet's overall World Duy standings: 1. Nus (No) 956obt; 2 Medier 753; 3 M von Grueriger (Swit) 7:26; 4 Krauss 666; 5 Alberto Tomba (k) 616; 6 Nyberg 5:25. Selected: 133 Bell 6. Snow reports



though, and their manager, favourites Leeds next month.

hley in the Anglo-Italian Cup against West Brom to come."

England's Martin Lee and James Trotman are through to the second round of the boys' doubles at the Australian Open. The no2 seeds beat Dann Cur-rall and Alvam Zaman, of Australia, 6-2, 5-7, 7-5. Earlier, Trouman lost his sec-ond-round singles match to the Aus-tralian Jed Gould 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.

Southampton's Chris Wilkinson reached the second round of the ATP Challenger event in Haeilbronn, Germany, yester-day by beating Alex Radulescu, of Ger-many, 6-3, 6-4.

lilie Nastase is to compete in the Leg-ends Mixed Doubles Roumament at the Craiglockhan Centre in Edinburgh from 22 to 25 May.

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£40,000 to be won

See Page 22



### ROB ANDREW

Newcastle's rugby messiah

# Sky given chance to capture the Open

Golf

TIM GLOVER AND MATHEW HORSMAN

The Open Championship, one of the largest remaining jewels in the BBC's sporting crown, is courting satellite television. The Royal and Ancient, which runs the Open, has approached BSkyB through an intermediary

and is discussing a deal worth £25m over five years. The BBC is paying less than £1m a year. As the new Broadcasting Bill makes its way through Parlia-ment, with support emerging to which makes a profit of £3-4m sume in earnest once TWI has

protect eight major sport events a year, makes the R and A fi-from falling into the hands of BSkyB, the Open is left to its needs more to develop the "Any sporting organisation" own devices.

The event is synonymous with the BBC but the television contract expires after the 125th Open at Royal Lytham in July. The Open is not one of the "listed" events - the Olympic Games, the World Cup, Test cricket, Wimhledon, the Grand National, the Derby, the FA Cup final and the Scottish FA Cup final - prevented by current legislation from being broadcast on pay-TV.

game at grass roots. Through an intermediary, TWL the television arm of Mark McCormack's International Management Group, it is testing the water with subscription television.

Sky had no official comment, but is known to be interested in expanding its coverage of major golf events, following a controversial deal reached last year to broadcast the Ryder Cup exclusively on pay-TV.

According to informed

that invites us to have discussions will always be welcome,"

a Sky source said.

The prospect of a satellite dish appearing as a fixture on the skyline atop the granite and hallowed walls of the R and A clubhouse at St Andrews, a links which has borne witness to 600 years of golfing history, would probably have most members duffing their shots at the 18th into the Swilcan Burn. Nevertheless, it remains a strong possibility.
"We have already established that we are interested," Michael

we have asked TWI to advise us on what we can get. We want them to tell us what the Open is worth as a television medium. Of course, we don't have to accept what we are told."

Bonallack, who was one of the game's great amateur players, said the R and A has a dilemma. The BBC pays less than £1m, but guarantees a huge television audience. Sky, on the other hand, has the money but a limited number of viewers. "Ideally we want the Open to be seen by as many over the British Masters at said; "Like any good rights own-people as possible," Bonallack. Collingtree when no sponsor er the R and A is looking at all

A, said yesterday. "We haven't sands of youngsters who then see had any direct talks with Sky but the game and want to play it discover there are not enough courses or it is too expensive for them. Our policy is to put mon-ey back into golf to enable them to play but there's not much point if the facilities don't exist. We

could use more money to invest." Last year the Ryder Cup, another traditional centrepiece of the BBC's golf coverage, went to Sky for the first time. Sky show extensive coverage of the American Tour and several European Tour events. Last year they took and the BBC, who had the rights to the tournament, withdrew. The loss of the Open would be a grievous blow to the BBC, who

have recently seen the FA Cup final and the Formula One grand prix circuit snapped up by ITV. Sky is also preparing a substantial birt for rugby union's Five Na-

tions' Championship. Sky is understood to have offered £25m for a five-year deal but Bonallack said the figure was news to him and he added: We've still got to talk with the BBC." A spokesman for TWI

Bonallack, secretary of the R and said. The trouble is that thou could be found. They stepped in the opportunities. Our role is to see what the market is offering, the upsides and downsides. We are meeting all the broadcasters. When the Open was last held

at Royal Lytham in 1988, prize-money was £700,000 with the winner, Seve Ballesteros, taking £80,000. This year the total purse is £1.4m and the champion will win £200,000. With guidance from McCormack, who helped the Wimbledon tennis championships to maximise profits, the Open has steadily become more commercialised and three years ago, for the first time, allowed advertising hoardings to appear on course.

**Dourthe** 

admits

his guilt

Confession may be good for Richard Dourthe's soul but it has

done nothing for the 21-year-old

French centre's international ca-

reer. Yesterday he owned up to stamping on Ben Clarke's head

during last Saturday's France-

England match and thereby con-

demned himself to a Test ban of

probably two matches.
"I have no excuses," he said.

I was stupid, really stupid.

The English were pressing re-ally hard and I had a lot of

adrenalin going. The ball wasn't

released when he went to

ground in a ruck and I just gave him a poke. I know I should not

have done it and I am going to

have to pay for it. I hope it

teaches me to control myself."

field for nine minutes while hav-

ing stitches inserted after the in-

cident, which may not have been picked up but for the vigilance

of BBC's Rugby Special. Clarke himself was unaware of how his

injury had occurred and the

French federation is considering

the matter only at the instigation

Dourthe is now likely to miss France's matches in Scotland on

Saturday week and against Ire-

land in Paris a formight later.

I condemn brutality and Dour-

the will be sanctioned," Jean-Claude Skrela, the French

coach, said yesterday.

Brian Moore, the former

from first-class rugby. Moore

stepped down from from international rugby earlier this

season but had been expected

to carry on playing for his club, Harlequins. "I may play some junior rugby next season but at the momeot I'm just enjoying

my first real hreak from the

zland hooker, has retired

of the Rugby Football Union.

The England No 8 was off the

**Rugby Union** 

STEVE BALE

# Walker blocks **Batty departure**

Football

ALAN NIXON

Jack Walker has blocked a £3.5m bid by Newcastle United to sign David Batty. The Blackburn Rovers owner called a halt to negotiations on the sale of the unsettled midfielder even though Kevin Keegan came up with a vastly improved offer which the Blackburn manager, Ray Har-

It is understood that Walker, who has the final say in transfer matters, does not favour selling "a big player to a rival club", and will want more cash before he £6.7m transfer from Parma. considers letting Batty go.

### No Dalglish for Ireland

Kenny Dalglish yesterday discounted himself as a candidate for the vacant Republic of Ire-

land manager's joh,
Blackburn's director of foothall, who was in Portugal playing golf, was reported to be "fuming" that the Football Association of Ireland had leaked his presence on the shortlist for the interviews in London today and tomorrow, demanding the FAI issue a statement saying he

was no longer interested. There are other people apart from Kenny who will be interviewed and we understand that Kenny has got a very im-portant role to play with Blackhurn," the FAI chief executive, Sean Connolly, said.

i ne Miliwali manager, Mick McCartby, a former Republic captain, and Wimbledon's manmer lrish international, are

Blackburn are holding out for £4m for Batty, who may now ask for a transfer. He was led to believe he was on his way to Newcastle to play the central midfield role he prefers. The only way to kickstart the transfer is if Batty demands to leave, but it would cost him money in signing-on fees and loyalty payments. Blackburn have also turned down a

£3m offer from Arsenal for their captain, Tim Sherwood. Faustino Asprilla could become a Newcastle player before the weekend. The Colombian striker met Keegan yesterday afternoon to discuss his proposed

"Between the two clubs we

likely candidates, as is Dave Bas-sett, late of Sheffield United. McCarthy is favourite to succeed Jack Charlton, who left in December after the Republic's failure to qualify for the European Champlonship finals. The Republic, who have only

one confirmed friendly for the rest of this season, a visit to the Czech Republic on 27 March. start their World Cup qualifiers on 31 August in Liechtenstein. This is where the rot started in their attempt to qualify for Euro 96, when they were held to a goalless draw in June by a side gaining their first (and so far only) international point.

BRELAND'S WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS: Set-inday 31 August 1996: Decinessien (a); Set-shee Macadonia (b); Sendoy 10 November; Icelard (h); Wednesday 2 April 1997; Macciona (a); Wednesday 30 April: Romania (a); Saturday 7 June: Licchtersten (h); Wednesday 20 August Lidmana (h); Saturday 6 September; Influente (a); Wednesday 9 September; Liftuarte (a); Wednesday 11 October; Romania Inf.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD in association with

have more or less agreed the fee that should be paid," Gian-batista Pastorello, the Italian

cluh's general director, said. "The player himself wants to go to Newcastle but at this stage nothing has been signed. We will be seeing Newcastle again to-morrow because so far we have just had a general chat, but everything seems to be in agree-ment at this stage."

One factor that could dissuade Asprilla from moving to Tyneside is the weather - he has often complained about the cold in Italy. Newcastle will also have to match his wages, believed to be around £20,000 a week.

Birmingham last night pulled out of a deal that would have made Vinny Samways, the Everton midfielder, their first sevenfigure signing. Samways, who has been on loan at Wolves, is available for £1.5m, but Birmingham were not prepared to go beyond £1.2m or to meet the

player's personal demands.

Manchester City yesterday
completed the £350,000 signing of the international defender Michael Frontzeck from Borussia Mönchengladbach.

Darren Anderton could be challenging for a Tottenham place in a fortnight after his successful return to reserve team action, following a groin operation in September. Everton have placed their defender Matt Jackson on the transfer list at his own request.

Mervyn Day, the former West Ham goalkeeper, has been appointed manager of Carlisle United, whose director of coaching, Mick Wadsworth, has become assistant manager at Norwich City.



eventually knocked out the third seed to reach the semi-finals

Report, page 23; photograph: Empics

### 'Hurricane' Higgins comes close to blowing himself out

It is not so long ago that a poster campaign to sell a snooker tournament needed only two words: Hurricane Warning. Yesterday, Alex Higgins went unhilled and harnly relevated as he tried to the control of the control harely applauded as he tried to hreathe life into n career that is not so much unconscious as re-

sembling a corpse.

A strong wind was still pulling in the punters from the prom on Blackpool's North Share, but it was not the "Hurricane" that tempted them in from the cold, rather Gail from Coronation Street and the theme attraction based on the television series. Higgins' struggles went almost unnoticed.

True, the most famous snooker player of them all had a capacity audience as he began the long haul towards an appearance in the Embassy World Champi-onships, but in the claustro-

total wash-out in tournaments for the first time since the 1990-91 season. Then he had the decent, if hardly admirable, alibi that he was serving a suspension. champion's decline Once in the world's top three,

To see him now is to under-

stand why. Once energy, faelled by a thirst for alcohol, seemed

to flow through him. He was a

hyperactive and brilliant rebel

who was perceived to be kicking against sport's conventions. Yesterday, he looked barely ca-

where Stephen Hendry used

him as cannon fodder. Howev-

er, he still looked better than an

opponent who can claim, with iustification, that he helped put

The first frame was an ex-cruciating safety battle lasting nearly 32 minutes and that, as

far as Higgins was concerned, set

an unalterable pattern. There

were no outrageous pots, no

swift thrusts leaving Gill de-

fenceless, just a slow, steady de-

cline. In short, he achieved what no one could ever have an-

he pulled back from 0-2 to 3-4, but that was a false hope and

three successive frames were

lost to leave Gill 6-3 ahead af-

ter the afternoon session. Higgins needed seven frames in the

evening to put himself within

two matches of The Crucible.

No, he needed a miracle.

He was losing too. A flicker of resistance was apparent when

ticipated - he bored.

the sport on the map.

the Irishman's provisional rank-ing yesterday had fallen to 61st. With tournaments proper to folphobic boxes that these qualifving matches are performed in, that amounted to a crowd of 18. low, the number facing him is Frankly, the champion of 1972 outside 100 and flirting with and 1982 had every reason to be thankful so many had bothered. snooker's underclass of 128 and beyond.

This season has been a nightmare for Higgins, who has flopped almost every time he has chalked the tip of his cue. Until yesterday, he had not qualified for a single event, had lost all but one of his 11 matches and his frame score was a pathetic 17 for, 49 against.

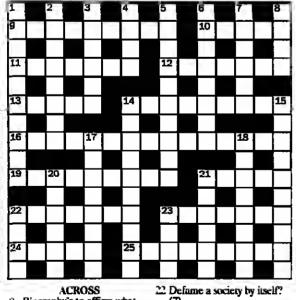
pable of drawing back a foot. His opponent, Gill, is so prominent within snooker that his biggest claim to fame is one His match with Surinder Gill at the Norbreck Castle Hotel was his last chance to avoid a appearance at The Crucible



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Biography's to affirm what gives timely help (4-5)
 Army recruits one for lifting

tackle (5) 11 Swiss madam, we hear, with models still to be seen in London (7) 12 Conspiracy to institute at uni- 1

13 Antelope in animation by Disney, originally (5)

one in Lichfield? (9) 16 Pope itinerantly turning top 19 Sparklers most seen set on ring, finally (9) 21 Cold, quiet grave (5)

 $\mathbb{D}$ 

23 Practice at home ground (7) 24 Lunatic red official holds this belief (5) 25 Number in Venice? (9)

DOWN Pulling the cops' leg? That will hold things up! (7-3) Cancelled play not seen by audience (8) Mun, for example, exists on

earth (6) Roman author of "The Moon and Sixpence"? (4)
Futile, taking first slope

wrecklessly (10) nable to confine primate in strongbox (8)

7 Such an acclelerator might make stripe on a road (6)
Pace of favourites on the way back? (4)

14 Porcelain trophy presented before classic race? (5,5)15 He has not been ordained, having changed robe at Rhyl (3-7)

17 Joined forces (8) 18 End of drive? (8) 20 One who pluts mountway needs unrestricted paper (6)
21 Underground was endlessly
busy in the wars (6)
22 Feature of a familiar church

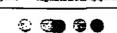
(4) 23 List of hard-wood ship (4)

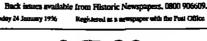
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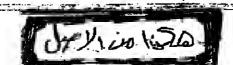


Missing his cue: Alex Higgins struggles in his quest to qualify for The Crucible Photograph: Simon Wilkinson

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